

payments in kind

David Leigh

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from the parliamentary lob-byist Ian Greer, but also gifts and payments in kind worth thousands of pounds, it emerged last night.

Mr Hamilton and his wife, Christine, used the cover of an Ian Greer company ac-count at a leading London de-partment store to obtain furniture. Mr Greer also paid for paintings from a picture gallery. He also bought the cou-ple plane tickets.

Sources at Peter Jones, the Knightsbridge department store in Sloane Square, confirmed that Mr Greer's company kept an account there. although: "It hasn't been used for some time.

Greer sources also confirmed yesterday that Mrs Hamilton had on at least one occasion in the late 1960s cho sen and collected furniture for the Hamiltons' home, but paid for on the Greer Associates Ltd account.

Paintings worth almost £1,000 had been picked out for the Hamiltons elsewhere. Mr Greer had also footed the bill. Pressure increased on the dis-graced MP last night when Liberal Democrat leader Paddy Ashdown wrote to Mr Major last night asking "whether you should allow



lows admissions wrung from Mr Hamilton since he dropped his libel case, that he had taken two payments as introductory commissions totalling £10,000 from Mr Greer. He maintained this formed no "financial DO "financial relationship"

Although Mr Hamilton ad-mitted taking two payments from Greer, he had in fact taken at least four, Guardian inquiries now reveal.

Mr Hamilton promised to disclose his tax returns to the Guardian's lawyers while they were preparing for the libel trial, but by last weekend, when he sensationally dropped the case, he had not done so, despite repeated

ture purchases first surfaced

yesterday in newspaper reports that accounts at the

The tax returns would have revealed if he had declared such a man to continue to hold the party whip when, if as furniture from Peter Jones. The all





'I'm going to my solicitors now and to Number 10 for a

reception later. You can get pictures of me there this evening.'

Neil Hamilton, speaking to photographers when leaving home yesterday morning

'I'm far too busy just to

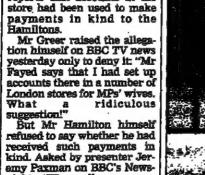
you conclude that Hamilton deliberately lied to the Dep-uty Prime Minister".

Mr Hamilton was last night facing the prospect of expul-sion from the Commons because of his failure to declare any of the Greer payments in the Register of Members' Interests.

Mr Hamilton told photogra-phers outside his home yes-terday morning that he would be attending a function at 10 Downing Street, with the Prime Minister and six Cabinet ministers. He suggested he would pose for pictures

After the news broke, Labour politicians expressed their fury, suggesting Mr Major was guilty of a gross misjudgment to allow him into Number Ten. Mr Hamilton later said he would not be

attending. He was too busy. Asked whether Mr Hamil-ton would have been wel-come. a Downing Street spokeswoman laughed before replying: "You couldn't possi-bin growth me to answer. by expect me to answer MPs including Mr Hamilton, warning them that they must The Conservative MP John series of vigorous perfor-Mr Ashdown's letter foldeclare all "introduction Browne, when found guilty mances on TV and radio abusbly expect me to answer that."



night: "Were all your pay-ments in cash or were there some in kind?" he replied "Look, I'm not getting into this kind of discussion".

Mr Hamilton describes the payments as "introduction fees" for companies he signed

up with Greer. But in December 1989, after his payments had been received, the then Registrar, James Hastings, wrote to all MPs including Mr Hamilton,

Closed door policy . . . a reception at Number 10 was out of bounds to Neil Hamilton last night PHOTOGRAPH GRAP

fees" or one-off commission | by the Members' Interesta payments. Mr Hamilton's reaction to this was deliberately to con-Committee in 1990 of not declaring interests, was sus-pended from the Commons inis was deliberately to con-ceal the payments by not en-tering them on the register, in the same way as he had con-cealed a free holiday in Mr Al Fayed's Ritz hotel in Paris with his wife in 1987. The Conservative MP John Brogne when found critic for 20 days. Parliament has unlimited powers to punish its MPs. By last night Mr Hamilton was becoming something of a

to defend what he referred to on Newsnight as his "little indiscretions". His on-and-off statements about whether he would at-

tend Mr Major's reception at were accompanied by a no-ticeable lack of statements in his support from other Con-servative Ministers or MPs.

many of them now struggling | the size

ing his opponents and seeking | themselves to contain the controversy over their role in accepting Greer cash. More than 33 of them now

turn out to have accepted election funds from Greer, both in 1987 and in 1992.

Tangled webs, pages 2-3; Leader Comment and Letters, page 8; Cleaning up te, page 9

Clinton scrabbles to save crisis summit Octuplet mother loses last babies

Martin Walker in Washington

ILL Clinton announced prime minister, Binya-min Netanyahu, and the Pal-estinian leader. Yasser Arafat, have agreed to resume immediate talks on the Israeli withdrawal from the flashpoint West Bank city of Hebron The United States president

said talks on Hebron would begin on Sunday at the Erez border point between Israel and the Gaza Strip — but and the Gaza Strip — but The sticking point was the shape. could not conceal the fact that Palestinian demand that The compromise proposed by its previous government wounded five in two incidents on progress had been reached Israel set a firm date for with by the US suggested that Is and the Oslo accord, which in Hebron, Israell security sources and Palestinians said.

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there, the differences are still there," Mr Clinton said. "They

were not able to resolve their for the end of talks on Hebron. differences here." He was speaking as a last-chance negotiating session over lunch at the White House

failed to break the deadlock between the two sides.

Barlier, after morning talks had ended without result, one Palestinian official said: "It's finished — we could not agree on a single thing." The sticking point was the

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ing the crisis, which has left at least 70 dead and hundreds wounded over the past week. "The problems are still impossible without agreed se-the matter of the tunnel curity arrangements for Israeli settlers in the city. Instead, he offered only a date ternational commission.

But as US aides gathered "The demands of the Pales-tinians are for an immediate yesterday morning to propose more direct talks, the Israeli leader insisted that he could redeployment from Hebron without any security arrange-ments anywhere else," an not compromise on the secu-Israeli spokesman said. After a night of talks be-tween Israeli and Palestinian rity issue of Hebron — and direct talks did not take place. Instead, the morning ses-sion ended in recrimination. officials, US officials had been Mr Arafat insisted that Israel hopeful a deal was taking bonour the promises signed

Despite US pleas that the Palestinian leader could not be expected to restrain new violence if he had to leave empty-handed. Mr Netanyahu stated no Israell leader could leave any of his people at the mercy of Palestinian police after last week's fighting. Clinton administration MANDY ALLWOOD, the octuplets, last night lost her last four babies, completing the miscarriage which began on Monday and fulfilling doc-tors' predictions that she ornid word obligations are align.

could not deliver any alive. Ms Allwood, aged 32, rejected medical advice that a selective termination would increase the chances of some Clinton administration sources were furious at the role played by the Republican presidential candidate, Bob Dole, in strengthening Mr Ne-tanyahu's hand by demanding babies surviving. Instead she engaged the publicist Max Clifford and sold her story to that the US put no pressure on Israel to make concessions. the News of the World. Last night Mr Clifford said:

 Israeli soldiers yesterday shot dead one Palestinian and wounded five in two incidents "It's just tragic. ... Mandy desperately wanted to have all or some of the babies."

Full story, page 4

spend my time in social intercourse and drinking

Neil Hamilton after news of his plans provoked anger

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2 NEWS



TANGLED NEB Lobbying on behalf of US

company

lifestyle

Rightwingers fought fiercely on behalf of US tobacco firm to avert ban on carcinogenic product



Realth ministers were astonished that MPs, including Nell Hamilton, were lobbying to stop Britain banning Skoal Bandits

Tory MPs' unhealthy campaign

David Hencke David Palliste nd Jamie Wilson

HEN TWO Con-servative MPs to David Mellor and Kenneth at the Department of Health, the ministers were as-tonished to be lobbied on the consuming a product called Skoal Bandits, which causes

not know on May 9, 1989, was Brown, worked behind the that the MPs — Michael Brown, MP for Cleethorpes,

strong campaign to halt the ban. Mr Mellor said yesterday: "I took the view that it was monstrous that US Tobacco were free to peddle a noxious substance like this --tea bags full of tobacco to chew in the mouth — within this country. I was extremely mended IGA keen to see the law tighten

were facing a

up to prevent these products being sold." But Mr Meilor, as only one of the ministers who became the target of a ferocious cam-Skoal Bandits, which causes beign throughout the 1980s, mouth cancer. What the two ministers did Hamilton and, in this case scenes for their own gain. Details of how this wo

UST were £120,000, which In an interview with the would mean Hamilton and Guardian, the executive said: "I was told by Ian Greer that Brown received £6,000 each." Neil Hamilton and Michael The executive goes on to de-Brown advised UST that pro-fessional lobbyists should be instructed, and they recomribe how he saw the two MPs working in the House of Commons. 'I would say that Hamilton and Brown became the prime movers and shakers in terms of the UST parlia-According to the executive, Ian Greer won the business mentary lobbying campaign. They would write letters to ministers putting forward the interests of UST, they were Enjoyed

talking to ministers in the lobby and contacting other MPs to discuss issues relevant to UST. They were effectively IGA's eyes and ears and voice in the House of Commons. The executive describes

tained an introduction fee, but

also a trip to the United States

to stay at an expensive apart

condominium. The executive recalls a conversation with Neil Hamilton after he returned from the States. "He told me how well UST had looked after him and how much he had enjoyed the trip." He also remembers Mr Hamilton insisting that he must be booked for a night at

Prime mover and shaker free trip from British Air ways for himself and his wife. During the period after Mr Greer won the account, both Mr Brown and Mr Hamilton were active in Parliament on the Skoal Bandits issue.

Five parliamentary ques tions on Skoal Bandits issues were tabled by Mr Brown in 1987 and 1988 to Edwina Currie, then a junior health min-ister. Mr Hamilton, while not tabling any questions, be-came involved in proposing an amendment to the 1969 Budget to change the taxation of tobacco to benefit the intro-duction of Skoal Bandits. When ministers proposed reg-ulations banning Skoal Ban-

Hamilton was the lead name

Bandits to IGA. "I never worked for Ian Greer nor lobbled for him, which is why I thought I did not have to declare the payment," he told the Times yesterday. Mr Hamilton, who has dis

closed two payments from Ian Greer, told the BBC yester-day: "The commissions placed me under no obligation whatever, either to Ian Greer or his company. They were wholly unconnected to my position as an MP."

The Guardian Thursday October 3 1996

David Mellor

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by Neil Hamilton and Michael

Brown to stop a

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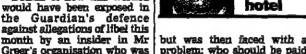
reaki

and Neil Hamilton, MP for Tatton — had already been paid £6,000 each by lobbyists Ian Greer Associates for introducing US Tobacco, the maker of Skoal Bandits.

The company they were pro-moting - apparently on rightwing libertarian grounds was paying Ian Greer £120,000 a year in an effort to stop Britn. and eventually Europe, banning the product.

against allegations of libel this month by an insider in Mr Greer's organisation who was a senior executive. Now the trial has been abandoned, he wishes to remain anonymous but provided a graphic description of how the two MPs won the lobbying company the

account, and then worked on behalf of the company.



ment in a New York hotel problem: who should be paid the normal 10 per cent introwith his wife, Christine, and even spent a night in a luxury duction fee? "He [Ian] said he hotel in London in order to attend a business meeting, all at was certainly not paying 20 per cent, and they would have to split the commission the expense of UST. between them and get 5 per cent each. My recollection is that the first year fees for

trip to

US and

stav in

The Essez House, overlookhad a luxury apartment block ling the Skoal Bandits ac-where US Tobacco rented a count, Mr Hamilton seeking a

for firm

the luxurious St James's Court Hotel in London or he could not attend a business meeting with the company. "I

do not know why this was stipulated because Mr Hamilton had a flat in London."

on a motion to annul them. All this came as a shock to Mr Mellor when told about it. "I was astonished when I received representations from certain members appealing on civil liberties grounds for the right of people to damage themselves by consuming this appalling substance."

Mr Brown has now admitted introducing Skoal

closed doors

KEY documents, the con-tents of which would

Richard Norton-Taylor

Even making allowances, costs don't add up pocuments to be seen

THE LUXURY HOUSE

Jamie Wilson

HE purchase of a £400,000 house in his Cheshire constituency

might have been expected to put Neil Hamilton into deep water financially. Mortgage payments alone were more than his parliamentary salary. Mr Hamilton bought the

property in spring 1990. when his basic MP's salary was just £26,701. Chal langed by Jeremy Paxman on BBC Newsnight to explain how he paid for it, Mr Hamilton said: "I bought a house in 1984

for £61,000 with a £48,000 mortgage and I bought a house in 1991 [sic] increasing the mortgage to over £200,000 having sold my earlier house for £207,000, so if your arithmetic is very quick you will understand how I managed to do it."

However, Mr Hamilton's



The Hamiltons' £400,000 mansion in Cheshire, bonght in 1990. and, right, the block where the MP has his London flat

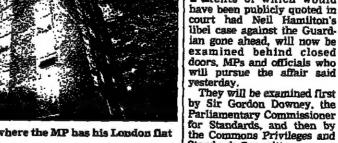
reply raises more questions | tended to cover secretarial | style. Hence their need for than it answers. In 1990 the average mortgage rate was 15 per cent. A 25-year £200,000 repayment mortgage cost £30,960 a year, (£2,580 per month), so the Hamiltons would have needed a combined income of £45,000 before tax to pay the mortgage alone. Mr Hamilton was also en-titled to an allowance for

and research assistance, and office equipment. Assuming that Mr Hamilton, who employed his wife as his secretary, paid her a generous £13,000 salary, their combined income would have been just over £40,000 -- £10,000 less than

their estimated outgoings. After tax, this would have meant the Hamiltons office costs which in 1990 had only about £65 a week was £27,166. This is in- to fund their expensive life-

"Then (and now) for a extra income. £200,000 mortgage most The Hamiltons also mainlenders would require a minimum family income of ained a flat in London, but the cost of that was almost certainly covered by the "additional allowance" at least £80.000. However, in 1990, it was possible to have a "nongiven to MPs with constitucies outside London. Another issue raised by

Mr Hamilton's statement is how he obtained such a large loan. Ian Darby at John Charcol, an indepen-dent financial adviser, said;



examined behind closed doors, MPs and officials who will pursue the affair said yesterday. They will be examined first by Sir Gordon Downey, the arliamentary Commissioner

behind

for Standards, and then by the Commons Privileges and tandards Committe Many of the papers are the property of the Government, Mr Hamilton, and the lobby-ist, Ian Greer. The Guardian s returning hundreds of documents obtained for the purposes of the trial.

status mortgage" which allowed buyers to borrow Sir Gordon yesterday high-lighted the contrast between less than 75 per cent of the value of the property (which Mr Hamilton was court proceedings and his own inquiry. "I don't have the powers to force people to cooperate." he conceded. His in-quiry into the Hamilton case would be "a private affair". He would pass his conclu-sions to the committee and it doing), without having to provide evidence of all income.

would decide whether to publish his report and a full tran-script of the committee's subequent bearings,

A senior Conservative member of the privileges committee said: "The Guardian is reluctantly to be con-gratulated. It revealed a state of affairs the existence of which I did not suspect in my worst nightmares."

He said the committee had a duty to subpoens all parties concerned who should identify all relevant documents. There is widespread confusion surrounding what will be an unprecedented test for both Sir Gordon and the new Commons committee, lain Duncan-Smith, one of the committee's Tory members, said it would investigate only if Mr Hamilton disagreed with Sir Gordon's findings.



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The role of men and women. Will it ever

Britian's women.

RadioTimes

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Labour has a weapon to hit the Tories in their weakest area --- sleaze has a provocative ability to range into territory his more cautions colleagues never risk. There was sympathy for Mr Hamilton in been continually stymied by re-

THE

NEIL Hamilton has handed the Labour Party a gift more valuable than any lobbyist's fee. His cavaller pursuit of the Guardian over claims that he asked parliamentary questions for cash has ended in ignominious rout. Mr Hamilton may have wanted to clear his name, rebuild his career and restore what he saw as responsibility to report-ing. Instead he has succeeded only in damaging his reputation, his party and the constitution. Out of his discarded writs the Op-

Out of his discarded writs the Op-position can fashion a weapon to strike the Tories in their most vulnerable area — sleaze. Mr Hamilton has hitherto en-joyed the benefit of his col-leagues' considerable doubts, A politician of wit and charm, he

many quarters when allegations in the Guardian led to his depar-ture from the Government. He potential embarrassment to the Government instead of waiting until after the colleagues who vigorously denied he had received money from Mohamed Al Fayed to ask questions in the until after the concegnes who helped him had fought their elec-tion. His daring might have been understandable, although not ex-cusable, if he had a strong At rayed to ask questions in the Commons. His determination to fight persuaded colleagues to support him. That faith has been shown to enough case to see matters through. But with hindsucht it heart taum has been shown to be misplaced. By dropping his action with seconds to spare Mr Hamilton is guilty, at the very least, of reckless misjudgment. A beined barriets he must hear the Government itself is not in Mr Hamilton's one-man rewriting of the constitution does not sit well with its posture as the defender of ancient liberties least, of reckless misjudgment. A trained barrister, he must have known how complex and expen-sive libel litigation would be. It strains credulity to believe that it was only on the eve of the trial that costs became an insuperable obstacle. Until Monday afternoon Ma Momilton had excerded bimself against overhasty change. But the greater damage is not to the Tory reputation for consistency. but to probity. The Conserva-tives efforts to win back the af-fections of the electorate have Mr Hamilton had exerted himself strepuously to pursue his action. He conducted a high-profile cam-

i

paign against the Guardian. He i pursuaded parliamentary col-leagues to amend the 1669 Bill of Rights to allow MPs to waive privilege. He had also chosen to fight his case at a time of great notential embatrassment to the elations of sleaze. From the high politics of the Scott report to the low farce of ministerial faithless-ness, a series of incidents has reinforced the impression of a Government too long in power and too careless in its exercise. That sense will only be rein-forced by Mr Hamilton's aban-donment of his action and the new revelations appearing. Some may be trivial ... But the cumu-lative impression is as damaging as the parametric that the vertex as the perception that the party is split. Deceit is a more harmful Charge than division. John Major, who still enjoys a reputation for plain dealing, has tried to restore faith in public life with the establishment of the Nolan committee. Many of the lobbying practices which so of-fended public opinion have ended. But public comfidence in this Government is still at a low ebb, and it is difficult to see how it might be easily restored.

Evening Standard

THE evidence makes plain that Neil Hamilton was flatly deceit-ful [over] his dealings with Mo-hamod a Round it is hard to see how he can

remain an MP. But the Tory remain an MP. But the Tory party also has serious charges to answer. The memorandum of June 1995, disclosed only last week to the Guardian, makes plain that senior Torkes knew Mr Hamilton's delence was untena-ble. They knew the Fayeds had [pakd] Mr Hamilton and other Tory MPs (through Ian Garcet)

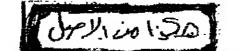
Tory MPs [through Ian Greer] yet kept silent ... We are left with a nice moral

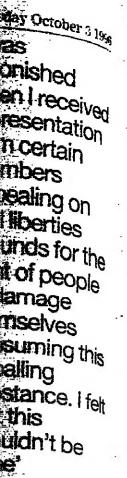
whe are next with a nuce notat choice between Mr Hamilton, who accepted Mr Al Fayed's lavours and sought to serve his interests, and some of his col-leagues, who took the money and made no attempt to earn it.

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change? In this week's Radio Times we speak up for

ader comment, page 8





David Mellor tion approached by Neil Hamilton

and Michael Brown to stopa Road Bandits ban

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GREER'S TANGLED WEB

Media blitz two days after libel case dropped at last minute

Lobbyist denies improper links to MPs in series of media interviews, but remarks fail accuracy test



er: said MPs to whom he gave money for election campaigns were mostly personal friendsprot

'I have certainly never paid anyone to ask questions. I'm a political lobbyist. Do you expect me to engage in a corrupt act?"

lan Greer, October 2, **BBC1 News 1pm**

NEWS 3

'We would never say we can arrange to have a question tabled, but actually we can. If we went out and said that, there's bound to be someone who would take great offence to think that a middleman could arrange such a thing but, as it happens, yes of course we do'

lan Greer, March 1994, unbroadcast Cook Report

Breaking cover to lay a false trail

AN GREER broke cover yesterday to give a series of interviews in which he denied having any improper financial relationships with MPs. He said most of the MPs he gave money to for election campaigns in 1987 and 1992 were per-sonal friends who asked for donations.

He said he had to abandon the libel trial because a "professional conflict rather than a personal one" cropped up which meant new lawyers would have had to be hired at great expense. He said commission payments he had made to Mr Hamilton, Michael Brown and Michael Grylls were simply "thank-you" pay-ments for introducing new businesses.

David Pallister finds a number of his more tendentious remarks can be shown to be wholly inaccurate.

ON Radio 4's World At One Mr Greer said that this time last week he believed he was winning. "I understand George Carman, who is Mr Al Fayed's friend and lawyer, Parliament. didn't even take on the case, made excuses, because he knew we were going to win."

Neil Hamilton and Michael Brown received £6,000 each for introducing US Tobacco to Ian

introducing US Tobacco to Ian Greer Associates in 1987 and both took free trips to the US. Brown asked five parliamen-tary questions; Hamilton tabled an early day motion calling for the ban on tobacco snuff to be lifted and intro-duced an amendment to the Finance Bill helpful to the company. Neither disclosed his payment. MPs are obliged to do on the Register of Members Interests. Mr Carman had represented the Guardian since October 1994 when the writ was issued but when Mr Hamilton changed the law on defamation and sought an early hear ing during the summer both he, his junior James Price QC, and Mr Greer and Mr Hamilton's leading counsel, Lord Williams, had to drop out because of prior commitments. Mr Carman said yesterday: "It was with great reluctance that Interests.

MR GREER told ITN in reference to Mr Al Fayed: "This man certainly passed me no money at any time. I categorically deny it. It would have been a corrupt act, and I am not a corrupt person and my company is not corrupt."

An internal Tory Central Office memorandum, pub-lished in the Guardian yester lished in the Guardian yester-day, specifically acknowledged that Ian Greer had been given £18,000 from Mr Al Fayed for contributions to the election campaigns of 21 Tory candi-dates in 1987. Furthermore, Mr Greer admitted in his vit-ness statement to the court that trust hasn't worked."

ness statement to the court that he had received £18,000 from Mr Al Fayed and 26,000 from Mr Al Fayed and a cheque for £13,333 from Mr Al Fayed on top of his £30,000 annual retainer.

ON World At One Mr Greer On the same programme was asked why he did busi-ness with Mr Al Fayed after Greer said:"I categorically deny that I ever received the DTI report accusing him money, nor would L to pay of lying was published in the Observer in March 1989. "Mr members of parliament to ask questions. That we have been corrupt act, and I'm not a

Al Fayed is an extraordinary man," he said. "I was happy to do business with him at the corrupt person, and nor is my company corrupt." "A lot has changed since 1987. I wouldn't do what I did then time, and I did a damned good job. But I didn't know then the sort of animal that he now. There was a very grey area about many of the eally was. When you do business with someone you do it on the basis of trust, and that nules Mr Greer told Central TV's suppressed Cook Report in 1991: "We would never go out Mr Greer continued to do busi and say we can arrange to

Mr Greer continued to do busi-ness with Mr Al Fayed after the report was leaked and after it was officially pub-lished in 1990. Mr Greer was have a question tabled, but actually we can ... as it happens, of course we do. The rules on members' inter prepared to accept money to defend Mr Al Fayed from ests in the late 1980s were very clear on declaration of financial relationships with clients.

IN a statement after the action was abandoned Mr Greer said: 'The Guardian blinked first," meaning that the paper first proposed a

Richard Ferguson, QC for Mr Greer and Mr Hamilton, ap-proached The Guardian last riday asking for a settlement. In the space of a weekend the Greer/Hamilton claim was scaled down from a demand for £2.5 million in damages, a contrite apology and a sagging clause... to no apol-ogy, no gagging clause, no damages and the plaintiffs paying the Guardian £15,000.

Non-Tories play down payments

I had to return the brief."

upposed to come from Mr Al

Mr Hoyle could wall face problems when Sir Gordon

Downey's inquiry into the "cash for questions" scandal lasued by Midland Bank pic. Mike and Liz are fictional characters but their story is based on real Midland customers

LABOUR MPS INVOLVED

David Flencke

WO prominent Labour MPs yesterday faced em-barrassing revelations that they had received money from Ian Greer Associates for their fighting funds for the 1987 and 1992 elections.

Doug Hoyle, MP for War-rington North, is both chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party and a member of the Commons Privileges

and Standards Committee. He received £500 paid into his election fund by Ian Greer in 1987.

Chris Smith, the high-pro-file shadow health secretary,

TORIES AND

DONATIONS

HE Conservative MP

David Shaw yesterday retreated from his claim

that the Guardian had been

lying about when his constit-

vency party received money

from the political lobbyist Ian

Owen Bowcott

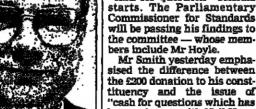
and David Leigh

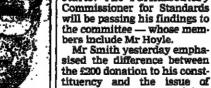


Doug Hoyle ... elect fund paid £500 by Green election Chris Smith ... received £200 for 1992 campaign

row over the Labour leader | emphasising that money had not declaring a £4,500 free trip by Concorde to the United "The money went to my agent not declaring a £4,500 free trip by Concorde to the United States on the Unitary Tax and constituency association. It was not paid to me," he Campaign, promoted by Ian Greer Associates.

Chris Smith, the high-pro-Chris Smith, the high-pro-file shadow health secretary, received £200 in 1992, for his campaign in Islington South, the constituency which in-chudes the home of Tony and Cherie Blair. Mr Blair himself faced mroblems yesterday when mroblems yesterday when charter and the state of the state





been going on with Neil Ham-ilton". "No favours were asked by Ian Greer Associates in return. If they had been he'd have got a very dusty answer indeed," he said.

The Liberal Democrats were also distancing them selves from Mr Greer's dona-tions. Alan Beith, Liberal Democrat MP for Berwick-upon-Tweed, said yesterday.

agent, Mr Shaw said. "These

sums are kept away from the

Conservative MP for Brigh-ton Kemptown, yesterday confirmed that his local party

had received £5,000 from Ian Greer Associates in 1987.

A friend of Mr Greer's for

Sir Andrew Bowden, the

candidates."

Meet Mike and Liz.

Mike and Liz have a brochure that will help them choose the right home.

Mike and Liz have just spent over three years in a poky little flat with no garden (Mike's constant gripe). Understandably, they are more than ready to move, which is why they asked

> for a copy of Midland's free brochure called "Choosing your home". It's a practical guide that takes you through the whole process of choosing a place, from-

assessing the neighbourhood to planning and maintaining a garden (Mike's favourite page). For a copy call 0800 100 129. Lines are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For further details please complete the coupon and send to: "Choosing your home" brochure, FREEPOST BS4335, Bristol, BS1 3YX. Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other Fuil Name MIDLAND Address The Listening Bank Town County Telephone 5UARD 3/10 Postcode Member HSBC 🚺 Group

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0800 100 129

David Shaw: Sums kept

away from candidates'

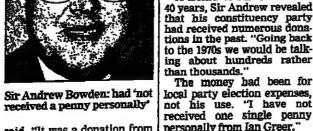
Insisting that his local agent's accounts showed no. general election in 1992. Yesrecord of any such donation in 1987. Mr Shaw conceded there was a "remote possibilterday, accepting that he could have been more circumspect about using the word "lying". Mr Shaw, aged 45, revealed that his party fightity" that another donation could have come through a Greer company account. Mr Shaw's Dover constitu- ing fund had received up to ency party is understood, ac-cording to information given friend, Dave Allen of DHL The delivery firm is also a clito The Guardian, to have

in the second



Shaw retreats over Greer money

said. "It was a donation from Dave Allen and not from Ian Greer. of Ian Greer at that stage even if there's a remote possidrawn on an Ian Greer account, I would regard it as money from Dave Allen." The money was paid into



"I don't think I even knew

Fayed. He dropped out of the campaign later that year. There is no suggestion either MP did anything illegal

The money [in 1987] came the constituency fighting of parliament.

than thousands." The money had been for local party election expenses, not his use. "I have not received one single penny personally from Ian Greer." The money was "entirely separate" from any dealings

he had with Mr Al Fayed. Sir Andrew was recruited even if there's a remote possi-bility that it might have been campaign on behalf of Mr Al **4 BRITAIN**

The Guardian Thursday October 3 1996

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Medical personnel stress 'tragedy' for mother expecting octuplets, whatever her motives in getting pregnant and selling her story

Last of eight babies are stillborn

Sarah Boseley and Chris Mihil

Timetable of tragedy

NDY Allwood, the woman who efused a selective abortion for any of her light bables, yesterday lost the last of them. Three male babies — small

enough to fit into the palm of one hand — were stillborn on Monday. Yesterday after-noon, doctors discovered that another — a girl — was on its way down the birth canal. Ms Allwood lost the last four at around 5pm. The hand-written notifica-

tion from King's College hos-pital, where Ms Allwood was taken on Monday, was stark. "We regret to announce Mandy Allwood has now lost her four remaining babies," it

Medical personnel at the hospital and other experts outside have made clear that the loss of all her babies is an tragedy for Ms Allwood, whatever her motives in getting pregnant, attempting to give birth to all eight babies, and

selling her story to the News of the World. Robert Forman, clinical director of the London Gynaecological and Fertility Centre. said: "Ms Allwood will be psy-chologically completely devstated. It is like a bereave-

MAY: Eight bables conhealth authority refuses to ceived after Mandy All-wood takes fertility drugs pay for specialist treatment in London. JULY: Boy friend Paul Hud-AUGUST 21: NHS agrees to son approaches Central TV pay for Ms Allwood to be and publicist Max Clifford. treated by gynaecologist of AUGUST: Deal struck with her choice the News of the World for SEPTEMBER 30: Contracan undisclosed fee. tions start. Ms Allwood is AUGUST 10: News of the rushed to King's College hospital, London, after los-

pregnancy breaks. Doctors warn that it is unlikely that ing a son around 5.30pm. After arriving at hospital, two more babies lost. all eight foetuses can be brought to term alive. AUGUST 12: Gynaecologist OCTOBER 1: Doctors say it would be a "miracle" if any of her bables survive the Kypros Nicolaides warns that the intense media interest may endanger her pregnancy. health, and calls for the News of the World to with-OCTOBER 2: In the morning, Ms Allwood loses a fourth baby. In the after-noon, she loses the others. draw from its contract. AUGUST 16: Solihull

ment. When someone loses a relative it takes a minimum of two years before they recover. She is going to be very affected for a long time." The case had raised many issues about who should have access to fertility treatment and whose responsibility it should be, Dr Forman said. "I think the doctors have their share of responsibility, but the patients also have a responsibility. If there's one lesson to be learned from this it's that both have to work in

partnership."

24th week of pregnancy. But they made clear the chances were almost nil. Most professionals

respected Ms Allwood's right to make the choice she did. She had been told she stood only a 50-50 chance of giving birth to live twins if she had undergone the selective abortion of the other six embryos. But Ann Furedi, director of the Birth Control Trust, said that circumstances had made it very difficult for her to decide what to do for the best. News of her multiple pregnancy broke at around the same time that a surgeon at Queen Charlotte's Hospital came under fire for the selective termination of a healthy twin

"The whole thing was a complete mess and a personal tragedy for her and, we assume, her partner. It is clear that she did ignore her doc-tor's advice (by having unprotected sex too soon after tak-ing fertility drugs), but lots of women do and I don't think she should be too harshly judged for that."

Ruth Grigg, spokeswoman for the Family Planning Association, said: "We feel Ms Allwood went into labour at 19 weeks because her womb was over-stretched very sorry for her ... We hope this case hasn't made women worry about the safety of fertility drugs. If When the babies emerged they were bruised and excep tionally small. On Tuesday doctors said the five that remained stood little chance they are used and you comply with the advice you get, they unless they could remain in the womb until at least the are very safe."

Comment

Sally Weale, Women's Editor of the Guardian, argues that the case must not impede help for those who need it

WHATEVER one's gut reaction might have be in the early days of the extraordinary Mandy Allwood saga, when it was first revealed that she was pregnant with eight babies and intended to carry them to term, today there is room only for sadness and compassion. What seemed at first little more than a grotesque freak show was last night a desperately human tracedy. During the course of three painful days, Allwood has experienced the agony of losing every single one of the lives she carried within her. On Monday she miscarried goes without saying. The three boys; yesterday morning there was a girl; finally last night the news emerged from further however when she sold ber story to the News of King's College hospital that

the remaining four babies had been lost. Though only 19

weeks into her pregnancy, she

table giving. It insists most of

knew what gender they were; we are told she even held some that point on, she was regarded as fair game and her private life, and that of her of her babies in her arms. From the start, the experts made it plain they expected pariner, Paul Hudson, was the subject of countless articles. little else. But whatever her Mandy Allwood's is a story reasons. Ms Allwood decided of profound personal tragedy — but beyond that, it could to defy both public and medical opinion which have a devastating effect on advocated selective abortion, and took it upon herself to try the lives of thousands of sub-fertile women desperately to do what no woman had seeking help to get pregnant Perhaps the treatment won't be quite so readily available; done before in the face of overwhelming antagonism That Ms Allwood acted perhaps the clinics will look a irresponsibly in having unprotected sex while taking little more carefully at those they choose to treat; maybe powerful fertility drugs some women will be deemed against her doctors' advice unsuitable

Bereavement counsellors

partner, Paul Hud-

will try to help Ms Allwood

son, mourn and come to

terms with their loss. As a

first step, they will be advised

to name the babies.

and her

Some will no doubt argue whole sorry affair was sullied such caution is only right. But as Mandy Allwood attempts to inch her way back to normality, it would be a pity if the World amid confused suggestions that the fee paid depended on the number of one extraordinary story resulted in a wider backlash babies that survived. From against fertility treatment.



'Lottery winner' hands out money

alists urge sh prudenc

one

NOW

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Child charity plans 35pc cuts

David Brindle, Social Services Correspondent

HE Save the Children Fund plans to cut its spending in the United Kingdom by 35 per cent and withdraw some services for families.

its six global regions are mak-ing equivalent sacrifices to the UK. The charity hopes that other voluntary groups will step in to take over many of ar voluntary groups will Critics, however, contend than a third of the cuts, but in to take over many of that the charity is downgrad the UK and Europe region schemes, most of which ing its work in the UK knows its budget will be

are in deprived areas. But it | following its decision last De- | reduced from 25.4 million to accepts that some will close. | cember to wind up its UK and | 23.5 million. The cuts stem from a deci- | Europe division and relegate | Judy Lister, regional direcsion by the charity to reduce it to the status of one of the its worldwide budget by £9 million, or 10 per cent, in res-ponse to a downturn in chari-

tor, said yesterday. "We are going to be taking a radical look at the programme, repo-sitioning ourselves and build-Save the Children was named top fund-raising char-ity in 1982, but has since slipped five places in the league. six regions.

ing on our strengths." The charity will aim to do more work with young people, but will pull out of direct child It is still searching for more than a third of the cuts, but care. It is not known how many jobs will be lost among its 900 UK workers.

Eriend Clouston

23.5 million. Judy Lister, regional direc N Englishman suspected of trying to give money away to Scots was being eagerly hunted yesterday by Highland policemen con-

carned for his safety. The police were summoned after the mysterious philan-thropist failed to give bundles of \$20 and \$50 notes to a shocked Inverness business man. Earlier, the smartly dressed, middle-aged man. who claimed to be a \$7 mil-lion lottery winner called either Stevie-Boy or Kevin, had to be escorted by a constable from a Masonic club where he had unsuccessfully

to nembership. The man, who arrived in In-

verness by private plane from Birmingham, is believed to have been responsible for last week's record £340 tip to a local taxi driver.

tried

The police were alerted by earage owner Peter Foster, still recovering yesterday from what he described as "the most astonishing encounter of my lifetime". Mr Foster was walking

through a car park on Tues-day evening when he was approached by the frustrated mason. "The man first put a wad of £20 notes in my hand, and then fifties," said Mr Fos-ter, who revealed that his un-

purchase expected benefactor had for an £11 trip to inverness seemed to be lonely and need-airport. He took the notes rrived in In-plane from Foster gallantly shoved the Campbell's estimation, be-Foster gallantly shoved the money back in his new

friend's sports jacket. "I had moral scruples about not accepting these wads of notes but I feared he'd get mugged so I telephoned the police," he said. A police spokesman said an officer had been despatched to look for Stevie-Boy/Kevin,

but he had so far not been located. "We are continuing to keep an eye open for this man for his own well-being," he said.

Last week a man answering his description tipped taxi-driver George Campbell 2340

tween £70,000 and £80,000. Clues to the identity of the wealthy tourist remain sparse. He booked his £2,500 charter plane in the name of Gray, but a spokesman for lottery organisers Camelot had no record yesterday of a Gray winning £7 million. 'He may

whoever he is, Scotland may not have seen the last of him. Before getting the brush-off from Mr Foster, Stevie Boy/Kevin announced that he was on the look-out for a man-

Lorry driver 'kept French girl's body hidden in cab for 10 days'

Stuart Milla

LORRY driver accused of killing a French student kept his cab for 10 days before dumping it, Worcester crown court was told yesterday. On the first day of the trial

for murder of Stuart Morgan, aged 37, of Poole, Dorset, the jury heard that he had raped and murdered Celine Figard, 19, shortly after picking her up at a service station near Newbury. Ms Figard, an accountancy

student from eastern France, had been making her way to spend Christmas working at a Hampshire hotel when she disappeared, sparking a huge hunt. Her naked body was found 10 days later on December 29 in a layby on the A449 near Worcester, in Hereford and Worcester.

As her parents Martine and Bernard watched from the back of the court, David Farrer QC, prosecuting, told the jury of nine women and three men she had been raped, beaten and strangled.

He said there was a "compelling wealth of evidence linking Morgan with the murder. "If ever there was a pow-erful case based on circumstantial evidence this is it."

Morgan had picked Ms Fi-gard up at Chievely services on the M4 where she had been dropped off by a French lorry driver. She was seen leaving in Morean's white Mercedes lorry in the late afternoon of December 19. "It was the last time anyone saw her alive,' Mr Farrer said.

He said Morgan had raped, beaten and strangled her, then concealed the body be-hind the seat of his cab. He had driven considerable dis-



Celine Figard, the student who was raped and murdered

tances, then parked outside he dropped her off safely be-his home where he spent fore delivering his load to his home where he spent Christmas with his wife and Southampton. Mr Farrer said that after

After returning to work Morgan's arrest police had found blood spots in the cab which matched Ms Figard's blood. Two months later at Morgan had dumped the body at the earliest opportunity. It was found by a motorist less than 24 hours later.

the defendant's garage in Poole, police had found what The court heard that Morgan now admitted having sexappeared to be the bloodual intercourse with Ms Fi-gard, but insisted it was with her consent. Morgan claims oaked mattress for the lower bunk of the lorry's cab. On the journey from her

ports she had passed through he Champagne region where she had been given two bottles of champagne unavail-able in this country. According to the prosecution Mor-gan had later presented these as Christmas gifts to staff at the netrol station opposite his where he parked his LOTTY

He said Morgan could also be linked to the discovery of what appeared to be items of Ms Figard's clothing at a warehouse at High Ercall, Shropshire.

Morgan regularly delivered loads there and had been at the warehouse on the night the body was dumped in the layby.

A warehouseman at the complex said he had knocked on Morgan's cab door at Bam and asked him to deliver his load to a nearby site. Accord-ing to Morgan's tachograph his lorry had not moved since his arrival at 1.20am until his departure at 10.30am.

Mr Farrer told the jury there was good reason to be-lieve that Morgan had falsified the records by removing a fuse from the tachometer in an attempt to conceal the dumping of the body.

The warehouseman would testify that Morgan left some time between 8.30 and 8.45 that morning, Mr Farrer said. Moreover, the tachograph had not recorded the short trip from where he parked for the night to where he delivered his load.

"Could it be that having removed the vital fuse to con-ceal the journey from High Ercall to the layby he simply forgot to put it back, forgot his movements were not being recorded until after he set off?" The case continues today.

action 1.20

14 61 1 RAM MALES

Glyndebourne opera house, where there have already been clashes over the extent of development

Disharmony rises over Glyndebourne's 'abominable parking aria'

Martin Walnwright

SENSITIVE music-lovers Swho frequent one of Britain's most celebrated opera houses have been accused of blotting an outstanding landscape to prevent mud soiling their skirts and shiny shoes. Councillors have agreed to take enforcement action against Glyndebourne opera. near Lewes, East Sussex, over an "absolutely abominable" but guaranteed muck-free car

park for delicate patrons. Although born of a wish to stage opera in a sylvan and rural setting, Glyndebourne has regularly clashed with residents and conservation-

ists over its steady accumulation of bricks, mortar and tar-mac. The "parking aria", as sarcastic locals nickname the gloomy, metalled half-acre, has finally driven Lewes a cavalier attitude."

nonths to return the car park to something more suitable for shepherds and nymphs. Officers say the work contrarenes the law by damaging a

designated Area of Outstand-ing National Beauty and by ignoring the formality of get-ting planning permission. All parties on the council have joined the chorus of dis-approval after councillors at Leaves town hall wave shows Lewes town hall were shown a video of the car park and its effect on the sweeping view from the South Downs. "I've been saying for a long time it looks terrible," said Coun Vic Tomkinson, chair of Lewes's northern area planning com-mittee. "They do seem to have

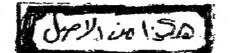
Glyndebourne was cautious

council to take legal action. A warning went yesterday about its enthusi-to Sir George Christie, chair-man of the opera company, giving Glyudebourne six damp picnics on the grass official notification form the damp picnics on the grass official n was held to give Verdi and council." official notification from the



exist, but have opted for no

sion in Skye.



SOCIAL SECURITY Delegates back cautious pensions approach after deciding link to earnings would be too costly

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EDUCATION

Do Labour's sums add up? Blunkett admits he faces hard battle to win argument that promises on volunteers, early excellence and literacy are affordable



Lady Castle on her way to the podium to speak on pensions yesterday

nounced today.

Castle loses pension fight

Loyalists urge cash prudence

Michael White Political Editor

ONY Blair's team last night won a comfortable victory for their pension plans after Barbara Castle and her allies took their revolt right to the bitter end and forced a formal card vote at Labour's Blackpool

The leadership's win, by between 40 to 60 per cent, came only after, arm-twisting among the major unions, further concessions and a spec-tacularly deflant speech from Baroness Castle, 85, half a century after she was first

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The conference cheered wildly as Lady Castle rose to speak and cheered again after she had shown she is still a consummate political per-former. Harrist Harman, the shadow social security secre-taryter, conceded that she still had much to learn from Lady Castle said: "I believe

good debate only strengthens democracy, not weakens it. This debate puts this pensions issue back in the centre of our party where it should have been in the first place." She repeated her campaign's main charge that pen-sions could be recoupled with earnings over four years at a cost of only 0.75 per cent on national insurance payments.

Again she mocked the leaderurged the leadership to take a bolder stance — "the Tories ship's warnings that restor ing Serps - the state occupa-tional scheme she pioneered found £6 billion to defeat the miners, surely we can find £6 billion to defeat poverty," as Social Services Secretary in the 70s - would require those in occupational pensaid one speaker — the prevailing mood was one of loy-alty at all costs. It fell to Harriet Harman — To twist the knife, she said her plan would cost less than

Gordon Brown's hopes of a 10p starter rate of tax - after could, against the cost of the the shadow chancellor had Castle demands for full restospent part of the day assuring ration of the link between delegates and wavering state pensions and average unions that he was right. But the overwhelming earnings - which has cost single pensioners £23 a week thrust of the debate on "fair taxes and benefits" - includsince 1979 - and the revitalisation of Serps. "We are determined to iming Gordon Brown's contro

versial reforms of child beneprove the position of pensioners and determined that un-like the Tories we will honour fit for 16-plus teenagers was against her. A succession of loyalists, including the leftall the promises we make. We winger, Peter Hain, urged fi-nancial prudence and all but make promises that we can keep ands we don't make one big union, the GMB, either abstained or voted with promises we can't keep. Not only did Ms Harman offer "dialogue and concen-Mr Blair on the key vote. The

exact result will be ansus" over the pension review which Labour is promising in Though several speakers government, she also wound

up her speech by further em-bellishing the executive's nsion statement and the olicy document, Security in Retirement

"After this conference I will bring together and consult all those who have an interest in pensions," she promised. "Barbara asks will our work start now?" The answer is yes." She also outlined what a Blair government would do for the young unemployed, for those in need of a minimum wage and single parents as well as pensioners.

Immediate talks go some way to meet Lady Castle and rather further to placate Jack Jones, the former transport workers' leader, who is presi-dent of the National Pensioners Convention.

But Lady Castle said that without a full review Labour's new plans were moving towards a framework of private second pensions and enshrined the means test - "in my view a dangerous attack on the welfare state".

Hichael White

In the event one constituency involved in moving a more radical motion than Mr Blair wanted, Ealing Southall, withdrew in the interests of party unity amid ap-

canning Town and Poplar, stuck to its guns, supporting the Castle package and restor-ing benefits for 18 and 17year-olds. "This is not an idealistic wish-list, it's practical," said the delegate, it's Dave Lawrence. "This is not about costs, it's about prior-ities and political will."

Jean Bishop, who once taught in John Smith's old school in the Highlands, said she was shocked by beggars on London's streets recent, Tory phenomenum." Ms Harman joined the

Ms Harman joined the attacks on Tory policy as amounting to using the wel-farer state "to mop up their failure. But we believe the welfare state must be a springboard for people's suc-cess — giving a hand up, not a handout." whole apparatus of New Labour. "I know the rickety machinery of policy making that goes on behind the scenes finds it hard to master

LABOUR IN BLACKPOOL 5

Sketch

Gran handbags pension muggers



C'MUGGERS flee battling gran" would be the head-line in the tabloids. The story: pensioner Barbara Cas-tle, 85, used her lead-lined handbag to scatter an evil gang of muggers who tried to steal her cash yesterday. Bystanders looked on amazed as the frail red haired widow lashed out at the gang of hoodlums. "These louts were begging for mercy," said one eyewitness. "But she didn't stop. Even when they were flat on the floor she kept sticking the boot in. "I say, give 'em a free safari holiday. It's the only language these hooligans understand." It will be surprising if any-one makes a more effective

attack on the Labour front bench at the Conservative conference next week. The delegates gave her a standing ovation before she opened her mouth. After that the reception got warmer. The great joy of being 85 is that you can say exactly what

you like whenever you like and everyone has to pretend they admire you for saying it. She piled scorn upon Gor-don Brown. How could he refuse to link pensions to the increase in earnings when he was going to lose between five and eight billion pounds on his 10p tax band?

"Of course we all want to see a lighter tax burden on the lower paid. But a five to eight billion tax cut won't give a penny to the three million pensioners who are too poor to pay income tax." Then it was Harriet Harman's turn to taste cold handbag. "We are told we will have a policy review after the election. Fine, let's have it

after the election. But I'm just a simple Yorkshire girl. What policy do we fight the election The delegates cheered bliss fully as she then attacked the

As if anyone went to a party conference to hear the speeches! It's like going to a wedding for the sermon. Some of these misfits even look as if they went to bed

as complicated as pensions" Ms Harman sat behind her with the fixed smile of a daughter-in-law who is des-perate to imply that granny's outrageous remarks at Christ-mas are due to the fact that she doesn't drink much and that that second lemonade shandy was probably a mis-take. "This is a dangerous attack on the principles of the welfare state" granny con-cluded, and sat down to a storm of applause. The plat-form had fixed smiles and only John Prescott looked

the intricacies of something

genuinely pleased. My colleague, Steve Bell, has noticed Mr Prescott's close resemblance to a wilde-beest, or gnu, (see elsewhere in this paper). He may have been inspired

by the book he has been cribbing from, How Animals Live. This includes the passage: "Gnus make deep tracks in the dry soil and kick up huge clouds of dust as they go They do not seem to be very clever animals. They some times forget where they are going. If one gnu starts walking in the wrong direction others will follow him."

And so it proved to be. After the rapturous reception for Barbara Castle's attack on Harriet Harman, Harriet Har man received an almost equally rapturous reception for her, rather gentler, attack on Barbara Castle. "We owe it to pensioners not to make

promises we cannot keep." This mock piety is as if someone owed you £5 and said: "I owe it to you not to promise to repay you money which I do not intend to give". You'd appreciate the honesty but would rather have the fiver.

But the fact is that the whole Labour Party has been taken over by the bossy middle classes. At the back of the hall some people have stuck up a series of nagging handwritten posters. "Quiet!" they urge. "Delegates are try-ing to hear! No talking, no meeting, no interviews".

If you have the briefest con-versation with a colleague (eg, "God this is boring. Let's get a drink") persons in M&S suits turn round and make shushing sounds from contorted mouths.



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Volunteers plan A tip-off too 'to lift youth' good to be true

national league tables and restore student grants was de-

AVID BLUNKETT yes of Labour's ambitious scheme to attract 100.000 young people into a new "Mil-lennium Volunteers" pro-gramme designed to foster personal development while helping the sick, elderly and has studied.

environmental causes. The £30 million scheme, intended to mix government initiative with business and the voluntary sector, and to would come into effect between 1997 and 2000, was one. of three pledges highlighted by the shadow education and employment secretary. The others were his "early excellence centres", to provide a

plan to get slow readers into three week summer schools before they leave primary

************************ All are costed by Labour which plans to save £140 mil-lion by phasing out the as-sisted places scheme for with reading backlog in school repairs

Hattersley's attacks. Mr Blunkett himself The Tories always promise to the many what they only reach expectations for their age after three weeks of intendeliver to the few. A grammar school in every town, a secondary modern in every around £30 million. housing estate. One in 20 offered the best, up to 19 out of

20 attending the rest," he Though motions in support of party policy were easily to provide places for threecarried, a radical option at- year-olds whose parents wish tempting to reject testing and

Blackpool feated by 68-31 per cent. Labour's Millennium Volunteer plan was welcomed by Community Service Volum-teers (CSV) and David Sainsbury, whose Gatsby Foundation is engaged in pilot schemes which Mr Blunkett The £30 million annual cost

would be met from an Environmental Task Force (ETF) budget, and half from hoped-for private sponsorship. AN GREER in Blackpool? A rumour too good to be ig-nored. So my colleague Labour wants to ensure that all those who wish to can take Mike White and photographer Martin Argles followed the tip-off to the Pembroke up a voluntary place, "giving hope and inspiration to the botel. Could someone tell young people of today, provid-ing them with the expectation of a better tomorrow," Mr Blunkett said. Unemployed them where the Amoon din-ner, at which Greer was ex-pected, was being held? Ah yes, the hotel told our in-trepid team. That will be in

Pledges

young people aged 18-25 who

NTERESTING to bear Tony Blair scrupulously resist-ing Justin Webb's Break-fast TV invitation yesterday morning to deny that he might offer Paddy Ashdown a Cabinet job. Interesting also to see Paddy's right-hand man Alan Leaman mixing with the might in the Imparial hotal C 100,000-strong Millennium Volunteers scheme Early Excellence Centres, 25 pliot schemes for under-fives Summer schools to help primary pupils who fail behind mighty in the Imperial hotel last night.

the Hamilton Room.

NTERESTING to hear Tony

ALL THESE late night champagne parties are proving too much for Labour's Second Lady, Pau- Phase out assisted places
 Improved training schemes with new grade for best teacher line Prescott. She suggests that party givers should serve

undertake local voluntary only cocoa after midnight. Not very New Labour, I obwork would retain benefits and an unspecified sum, and ject. Well, maybe camomile tea for those of more delicate would be encouraged to get into skills training. tastes, she suggests.

The 25 early excellence cen-tres — model "one-stop shops" for parents, teachers and childminders — are part of the wider Labour plan to raise standards and replace the condignant Roy Hattersley, troversial nursery voucher system. They would cost around £10 million a year, half the money from savings on vouchers, half from local authority matching funds. In the literacy summer schools plan, pupils will be expected to

sive teaching. It would cost Mr Blunkett pledged: "In-

stead of vouchers, we will offer a nursery place to all four-year-olds and set targets denied entry to the Imperial on Tuesday night for want of the right conference pass, closely followed by an even angrier Ed Balls, speechwriter to Gordon Brown

OU want to know why this is a quiet confer-ence? I will tell you. Last Labour was at Blackpool in 1994, the conference was practically taken over by the BBC. Or rather it was taken over by Joy Johnson, who at that time edited the live conference coverage and trans-formed proceedings by bombarding us with press releases about her team's lat-est interviews.

It was a brilliant operation and Labour hated it so much that they briefly gave John-son a job in order to draw her sting. This year there is no BBC spoiling operation, no hourly BBC press releases — but Joy Johnson is back in Blackrool working on a docu-Blackpool working on a docu-mentary about Labour and devolution.

MICHAEL GRADE was in town this week for the annual Channel 4 Labour conference breakfast The Man with the Cigar recalled his early days with the BBC when he went down to Lime Grove with Bill Cot-ton to crack the whip over his journalists. Anxious to annoy the hacks, Cotton greeted them with a "Good morning, lads, what's the definition of gross ignorance?" No answers. Well, says Bill, in my experience it's 144 journalists. Still no laughs. Then the cerebral editor of Pan-ATEST victim of confer-ence security? Step for-hand. Sorry Mr Cotton, he ward a spectacularly in- asks, but why 144?

Martin Kettle



40,000 private school pupils. But ministers are certain to renew charges of high spend-ing impracticality — charges Mr Blunkett rejects. "We have a mountain to climb," he admitted. In an impassioned confer-ence speech he won repeated rounds of applause for pledging fair educational opportu-nities for all - not just a priv-

mix of day care and pre-school education, and the

school

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The debate was marked by repeated attacks on Conservative policies and calls to defend the principle of comprehensive education from voucher

schemes as well as the drift towards selection - a sensitive issue for Labour after the Harriet Harman row and Roy

accused ministers of "complacency, neglect and deception" in their education policy.

6 WORLD NEWS

I shall not tiptoe meekly away, governor tells Hong Kong assembly

Patten vows to keep on fighting to the very end

Andrew Higgins in Hong Kong

HRIS PATTEN gave notice yesterday that he will not beat a quiet retreat from last significant colony. With 272 days of his governorship left, he said he would not "tiptoe meekly" away, but stick to the course which has antagonised Beij-ing and Hong Kong's mostly pro-Beijing business elite. 'Our motto is not steady as

she goes but full steam ahead." he said in his last policv address in the legislative assembly, soon to be stripped of its emblems of empire as well as its 60 elected

More important than a smooth transition to Chinese rule on July 1 next year, he said, was a sucessful one. Deriding those who accuse him of disrupting the smooth transfer of sovereignty, he told a press conference after his address: "You can have a very smooth ride to the hospiout you might never come

The speech won few plaudits. Ronald Arculli, a leading pro-business member of the assembly, complained that it had raised too many "confidence-sapping questions". Democrats dismissed it as



Fung Chee-hwa, left, and Sir Ti-liang Yang are candidates for chief executive of the post-handover government

called a lame duck, but he has ducked the most important issue of all," said Martin Lee, deputy. Anson Chan, is a more popular choice. Another is the recently resigned chief justice. Sir Ti-liang Yang. But the Democratic Party leader. Beijing will decide who wins "We believe the defence of and democrats dismiss the contest as a sham. democracy ... and the de-fence of rule of law, cannot be In his address, Mr Pattern achieved by mere words. It can only be done by action, which, sadly, is lacking." defended his democratic reforms and increased spend-Most people in Hong Kong are more interested in who ing on welfare: policies which

China says sap Hong Kong's money-making energy. will replace Mr Patten than what he plans to do with his Attacking China's plan to final months. There are five declared candidates for the post of chief

replace the assembly with a handpicked "provisional" body, Mr Patten said: "I sincerely hope, even at this late stage, this bad idea can be executive. The front runner is the shipping tycoon Tung thought about again. It is un-Chee-hwa, though the opinion nolls show that Mr Patten's as well as provoca-

tive and we will have nothing to do with it."

China shows no sign of backing down. It considers the body illegitimate because it was elected, in September last year, under reforms introduced by Mr Patten without Beijing's consent.

"There was a fair election," Mr Patten said. "The nub of the problem is, alas, precisely that a fair election produced the wrong result for some people, a result in which too many pro-democracy legisla-tors were elected.

"Of the foolish remarks that one occasionally hears about Hong Kong, none is more misguided than the no-tion that this community does not really care about human rights. Many people, maybe the majority of people, in Hong Kong are here precisely because of their concern for

human rights. His severest comments were directed at unnamed interests eager to make secret deals with Beljing. "My anxiety is not that this community's au-tonomy would be usurped by Beljing, but that it could be given away bit by bit by some people in Hong Kong."

In an aside to his Foreign Office critics, Mr Patten told the press conference: "Tve never been a diplomat. No one could ever confuse me with a diplomat. But I do know the difference bet right and wrong."

Kashmir victor seeks to heal wounds

Suzanne Goldenberg In New Dolhi

HE flamboyant scion of Kashmir's leading political family, Far-ooq Abdullah, emerged vic-torious yesterday from the first state elections for nine years, pledging to be tough on gunmen but to heal the unds of the six-year separatist oprising. His National Conference

party, which has called for more autonomy for Kash-mir within the Indian union, took 54 seats in the 87-seat house, and Dr Abdallah was expected to be sworn in as chief minister

leaders while persuading Kashmiri demands for free-politicians in New Delhi to dom. "Finally, we all have make good on promises of to live there. And we would like to bring them round to thinking in terms of the nore autonomy After meeting political

human rights abuses.

nown as rener

to New Delbi.

constitution of India ... I leaders in the Indian capital yesterday, he said the first step was to disarm the think dialogue will con-tinue at all levels," he said. militants, and there was lit-Last month's state polls tle prospect of removing and the restoration of an the tens of thousands of Inelected government are dian troops who have seen as crucial to New Delhi's hopes of bringing normality to Kashmir. Alhelped stamp out the rebellion while being accused of though there were signs of He also promised to find coercion during voting, there was less intimidation by Indian soldiers than jobs for the estimated 4,000 gunmen - popularly

during parliamentary elec-tions last May. Dr Abdullah, who was based in London for many years, has been criticised have given their allegiance But Dr Abdullah held out hand towards the separat-

reputation as a motorbike riding playboy. He remains a credible leader because of his pedi-gree. His father, the "Lion of Kashmir", Sheikh Abduliah, dominated the state for 50 years, though he spent decades in jail for his efforts to preserve the au-tonomy pledged to Kashmin nearly half a century ago. Dr Abdullah became leader of the National Conference after his father's death in 1982, and this was his fourth election victory. He last came to power in 1987 after entering into an unpopular alliance with the Congress party, and amid widespread allega-

tions of vote fraud. Many



Afghan warlord's motley crew holds Taliban at bay in north

The Guardian Thursday October 3 1996

es the dauntfor his a ce from Kashashmiris ue that ar the elections on the basis mir during the past six at those elections sparked ing task of achieving reconciliation with separatist | that they did not meet | bloody years, and for his | the separatist uprising.



Rescuers prepare to begin searching the foggy Peruvian coast for signs of the lost Boeing 757

Fears for 70 as jet falls into Pacific off Peru coast

Jane Diaz-Límaco in Lima and Mark Tran in New York

BOEING 757 with 70 people, including two Britons, on board crashed into the Pacific off the Peruvian coast shortly after take-off yesterday when the pilot reported technical problems and said he was trying to return to Lima airport.

Thick fog and drizzle hampered early air and sea searches for wreckage or survivors from the Aeroperu flight from Lima to Santiago, Chile, but as light improved rescuers reported seeing de-bris, life jackets and oil slicks about 40 miles off the coast at Chancay, some 44 miles north

of Lima. Rescue efforts were being concentrated in that area in the search for possible subtile the search for possible survi- | over sea or land.

board.

Aeroperu refused to release details of the reported mevors although hopes were not chanical problem.

high. One body has been pulled from the sea, and there is lit-It said 21 passengers started tle hope of finding survivors. their journey in the United The airline identified the States, 10 in Ecuador and 30 in Peru. There were nine Britons as Mark Bran and Guillermo Serveto, believed to be resident in Chile. It said crew members on board. The plane was delivered in 1992 and had completed 2,600 21 passengers boarded the cycles of take-off and landing. flight in the United States, 10 in Ecuador and 30 in Peru. Boeing sent two employees to There were nine crew on help the Peruvian authorities

in their investigation, and ad-ditional experts were ready if Radar contact was lost at 1.10am local time, more than 20 minutes after the pilot needed. Two Boeing 757s have been involved in fatal crashes in

enorted the emergency. Motorway police said they recent months. In February, an Alas Nacionales 757 from aw a light falling to the sea. Local media reported that the computerised navigation the Dominican Republic went down, killing 189 passengers. The incident is still under system had failed and the pilot had asked for another

investigation. Last December an American Atrines 757 crashed near Calais, killing 165. There experts suspect that the prob were four survivors. The final

crash report, released las week, blamed pilot error. was found shot dead at his There are 721 Boeing 757s in service. Boeing officials declined to

were unclear. -- Reuter. comment on reports of mechanical problems Suspect held "We are still sorting out the

news reports," a company official said. This is Peru's second seri-ous air accident this year. In February a plane of the Peruvian airline Faucett, on a domestic flight, crashed into a mountain minutes before it was due to land in the southern Peruvian city of Arequipa. All 123 on board were

• The US national transport tation safety board has recommended Boeing to improve the rudder design on its 787 jets, after two unexexperts suspect that the prob lems lay with the rudder.

Chris Bird in Salang Pass, Afghanista

"The Taliban are down there," said the frontline com-FGHAN fighters wear-A long a motiley array of Soviet army surplus. long shirts and turbans blew mander, General Chary, his outstretched hand following the line of the rocket on their hands as freezing launcher. "We command the cloud poured down from the peaks of the Hindu Kush heights - there has been no fighting here." The Jumbash, or National mountains yesterday.

The men, members of Gen-eral Abdul Rashid Dostam's Islamic Movement of Afghanistan, has said it does not want to fight the Taliban. But Jumbash faction, were guarding a road tunnel on the stra-tegic Salang highway. The warlord's men and arthe armour guarding the tacular natural gate to

Gen Dostam's northern territory gave a clear message. "We don't want to fight but mour moved on to the pass to forestall an advance north we will defend ourselves," Gen Chary said. The Taliban's lightning ad-vance north, bringing its fun-damentalist brand of Islam, sent shivers through the relawards by the radical Islamic Taliban militia which seized the capital, Kabul, last week.

The tunnel, 45 miles northwest of Kabul, was abandoned last week by the forces of the sent shivers through the rela deposed president, Burhanud-din Rabbani. It forms a vital tively liberal northern territories controlled by Gen link between the capital, Dostam northern Afghanistan and the But the charred tanks litter-

Central Asian republics. ing the Salang highway, rem-nants of the Soviet interven-Jumbash Howitzers, mortars and tanks were dug in on tion from 1979-89 and later faction fighting, are a reminder of the cost of taking the mountains around the tunnel. A Grad multiple rocket launcher had its barthe road.

News in brief

arrested.

Mass arrests in Burma

tion with the killing of the rap singer Tupac Shakur, ABC radio said yesterday. He was shot on September 7. \rightarrow AP. The Burmese opposition leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, said yesterday that up to 300 democracy activists had been Angola hopes fall The Angolan former guerrilla group Unita boycotted a peace summit yesterday, dashing estimate was higher than that of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, which ordered the arrests to

the hopes of South Africa's president, Nelson Mandela, and other regional leaders that their initiative would prevent an opposition congress taking place. - Reuter lead to a breakthrough in implementing the 1994 peace ac-cords with the government of **Bulgarian killing** The former Bulgarian prime President Jose Eduardo dos minister, Andrei Lukanov, Santos. -- Reuter.

old gang member in connec-

Citizen Teresa

home, the parliamentary speaker said yesterday. The circumstances of his death President Bill Clinton conferred honorary American citizenship on Mother Teresa this week, saying the nun had demonstrated "how we can Police in Compton, Califor- make real our dreams for a nia, have arrested a 22-year- just and good society". - AP.

Some wavering royalists have only to think of the prospect of Lady Thatcher as President to shudder their way back into the fold. Antonia Fraser reviews Pimlott

Books, G2 page 11

rels trained down the valle The snows, due soon, will with rice fields and mulberry make any advance across the trees visible in the distance. pass extremely difficult. Win-

ter jackets have been distrib-uted to Gen Dostam's men. at the front - Jumbash fightsome of whom have no socks. ers sport only moustaches in anticipation. "So far the Taliban has

said he had abandoned Mr Rabbani's army and joined taken towns without any serithe Jumbash to hold back the Taliban. A truck load of Mr ous fighting," said a Western aid worker in the region. He questioned the Taliban's abil-Rabbani's soldiers drew up behind the colonel's jeep, also intent on changing sides. ity to overpower Gen Dostam's well-armed and well-But Gen Dostam cannot disciplined forces

rest easy. There is wide-spread talk of further war-fare. "The Taliban wants all Buses and trucks full of refugees, piled high with bags and bicycles, have testered over the pass away from Ka-Afghanistan," an aid worker said. - Reuter.

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bul to find sanctuary in Dostam's territory. Colonel Sayed Ahmed, a bearded Afghan commander

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WORLD NEWS 7

Experts say proposal to tighten UN criteria on refugee status blurs political dissent and terrorism

Britain seeks asylum limit

lan Black **Diplomatic Editor**

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RITAIN today launches a diplo-matic push to deny asylum to people promoting terror-ism, urging the United Nations to tighten criteria on refugees in a way that experts warn blurs the boundaries between crime and political

Foreign Office officials will go to the UN's legal commit-tee in New York with a declaration that anyone "financ-ing, planning and inciting terrorist acts" should forfeit the protection of the 1951 UN convention on refugees. Britain is also urging the

UN to remove the political protection clause - preventing an individual being handed over to a government

he opposes - when making extradition arrangements. Critics predict the changes will bring demands to hand

Home Office and Foreign win bring demands to hand over dissidents. They say that if Nelson Mandela had been in Britain during the struggle against apartheid he could have been denied asylum and extradited to South Africa as a terrorist Office officials insist they are simply trying to close loop-holes exploited by people of violence. "We are not looking at dissidents." one said. "We are looking at a far narrower a terrorist. group of people who are be-yond reasonable doubt en-

But government officials in-sist the question of return is not touched by the proposed declaration, which is nongaged in terrorism." But some experts believe fundamental freedoms will be binding, and that Britain is eroded: "Terrorism is such a bound to take human rights issues into account. frightener that states only ave to mention it and there is The move was initiated

a danger that all manner of human rights will melt away." partly because of frustration about the activities of British-Anne Owers of the human rights group Justice warned. based exiles, such as the Saudi fundamentalist Mo-Britain's declaration, ad hammed al-Mas'ari, whom vertised last week by Mal-colm Rifkind, the Foreign the government tried unsuccessfully to deport to the Ca-Secretary. is part of a wider ribbean island of Dominica effort involving the United earlier this year. and France. But the States

Egypt, Algeria and India have all complained of terrorist activity taking place in Britain. United Nations High Commis-sioner for Refugees (UNHCR) opposes the change because it confuses refugees and terrorists. It insists the 1951 convention is adequate.

The convention excludes people who have committed war crimes, crimes against humanity or acts "contrary to the purposes and principles of the UN". Government strat-egy is to add terrorism to those categories.

Diplomats say Britain's al-lies are allowing it to go ahead because common law rules of evidence and traditions of free speech mean it lacks laws that are in place in the US and Europe. "The US will back this but

they neither need it nor want it and are only doing it because the UK has supported it on other issues," a source said. "If this declaration does go through, the interpretation

will be very wide. It would be John Major announced the much more useful to have national legislation that British plan after discussions on terrorism at the Group of Seven summit in Lyon in luly.

> people to be able to commit atrocities and then be able to claim protection, but this raises problems of definition and proof," Ms Owers said. "The international human rights framework was set up to provide projection for indi-

undermining those protec-tions to protect themselves." John Wadham of Liberty said: "Once you start accept ing other people's definition

of terrorism you are in trouble. Incitement is a very nebulous term and there are real problems about the difference tween crime and dissent."

The rangers, identified as Martin Sibanda and Martin Marimo, evidently radioed their base to say they were pursuing suspected poachers led by Mr White, a former captain in an elite unit of the army of Rhodesia, as Zimbabwe was known before independence in 1990.

1987.

News in brief

Palme suspect

Mr White, who fied the country at independence, had long been suspected of poaching and involvement in sabotage and "dirty tricks" for neighbouring South Africa's apartheid era security services, said one senior Zimbabwe police officer. Mr White has denied any involvement in the Palme killng. - AP, Harare.

wanted in Zimbabwe

ZIMBABWEAN authorities indicated yesterday that they want

to question Anthony White, a former commando implicated in the 1996 assassination of the Swedish prime minister, Olof Palme, about the death of two government game rangers in

Yeltsin urged to step down

RUSSIA'S security chief, General Alexander Lebed, is due to meet President Boris Yeltsin in hospital today, after facing withering insults and criticism in the state Duma for concluding his Cheben peace deal.

The most damning words came from the interior minister, General Anatoli Kulikov, who accused him of appeasement bants nount to Chamberlain's Munich agreement with Hitler.

Gen Lebed joined Communists in calling for Mr Yeltsin to step down as president while he is in hospital awaiting heart surgery, saying the army was on the verge of revoit. He threatened to retaliate against Nato's eastward expansion with economic sancions against United States firms in Russia, and then hinted

darkly that Russia retained a nuclear capability. He said his powers as the president's representative in Che-chenia were "almost exhausted", and it was time for other ministries to take up the peace process.

It may therefore be only a matter of time and choice of occasion before he steps openly into the opposition ranks to await the next time he can make a bid for the presidency. — David Hearst,

Turkish PM heads for Libya

THE Turkish prime minister, Nermettin Erbakan, left for a controversial foreign tour yesterday. Turkey's first Islamist leader will visit Libya, Egypt and Nigeria. Foreign ministry officials dissuaded him from visiting Sudan. The US state department spokesman, Nicholas Burns, said this mach "We carting hyperbolic parts are compared by the state of the second secon

week: "We cartainly would have concern about any country normalising relations with Sudan and Libya." Both are considered by the administration to be sponsors of terrorism. Mr Erbakan has gone out of his way to show that he will not cosy up to the United States with talk of improving ties with Cuba and a visit to Iran.

But there are signs he may have endangered the coalition. Tansu Ciller, leader of partner True Path Party, said yesterday in her capacity as foreign minister that the visit was ill-timed. — Chris Nutinil Ankara

US plans anthrax vaccine

UNITED STATES military chiefs have endorsed a plan to vaccinate the country's forces against anthrar, reversing earlier oppo-sition. It would be the Pentagon's first regular inoculation pro-gramme against a germ warfare agent, defence department officials said.

The about-face by senior commanders removes the principal hurdle to the plan and reflects beightened Pentagon concern about the prospect of biological attack. Iraq, Russia and as many as 10 other countries are said by US officials to have at least the capability to load spores of the disease into weapons.

Military leaders had been dubious about the need for the anthrax vaccine, instead favouring work on a multipurpose inoculation. — The Washington Post.

Comic irks attorney-general

CALIFORNIA'S top law enforcement official is not amused by Doonesbury comic strip episodes poking fun at a raid by drug agents on a San Francisco club that said it supplied marijuana to ill people.

makes Austrians shudder lan Traynor reports from Vienna "The Germans are our big powerful neighbour. For historical reasons, we on the anxiety

Deutschmark imperialism

'Bonn never uses

New digital Nokia. 100 hours of power!

this involvement

caused by German company takeovers

PASTED across the supermarket windows of Vienna this week, in a lame attempt to assuage fears of encroaching German economic might, is the slogan "Priority for Austria

Whether advertising sau-age, yoghurt or wine, the 'Austria first" message of the Billa supermarket chain has an mintended irony. Lest month the chain — Austria's biggest — was taken over by a German firm.

to make political It was the most promipent in a series of German capital' purchases which included the renowned Vlennese furniture maker Thonet.

At the Semperit tyre factory south of Vienna, the workforce is fuming. Militants are mobilising against the German parent firm, Continental, which has decided to close parts of the factory, halve the workforce and transfer produc-

takeover - making them | chitects in Bonn debated Germany's 17th federal whether there was a separate Austrian art.

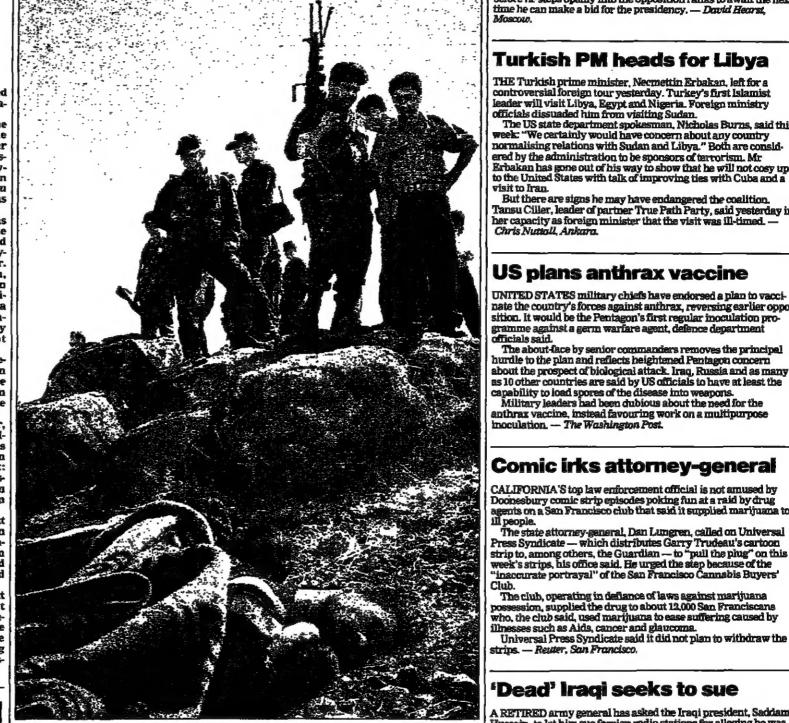
"It hurts us when the Frankfurter Allgemeine newspaper describes Peter tend to get very emotional about this," said Peter Ull-ram, director of Fessl opin-Handke (the leading Austrian novelist and play-wright] as a German writer," said the Braunau ion pollsters. The Austrian Beonomics Research Institute estimates

conference host, Andreas Maislinger. that there will be foreign in-A few years ago there was a row when Mr Handke won a literary prize named vestment of 30 billion schil-lings (£1.8 billion) in Austria this year, just over 80 per cent coming from after the 19th-century playwright Franz Grillparzer. Germany. "The German economy The winner was Austrian, the prize named after an Austrian. But the competi-tion was instituted by a completely dominates the German literary founda-

tion and the prize money was in marks, not Austria has no indige-nous commercial television but two state channels are overwhelmed by more than a dozen German cable

channels internal market here, with The German chancellor, 40 per cent of imports and exports," said Jan Stan-kovsky, its foreign trade expert. "But German busi-ness behaves very correctly Helmut Kohl, who like millions of his compatriots takes annual holidays in Austria, said last week: There are no more questions of identity today in and Bonn never uses this involvement to make politithe relationship between cal capital. We're very sen-sitive about the Germans." Germans and Austrians." But things are not that

LIMITED OFFER



migration expert. said: "Terrorism is an undefined concept internationally, ren-dering legal judgments peculiarly susceptible to political distortion. Western states have armed and supported movements such as the contras in Nicara-gua or the mojahedin in Afchanistan that many consider

to be terrorists while condemning armed resistance by African liberation movements, the Kurds and others. where no opportunity for democratic change is permitted for oppressed minorities or even the majority population."

would define exactly what the offences are so they can be tested in courts. What is "Clearly you don't want meant by 'planning'? What exactly is 'incitement'?" Nicholas Blake QC, an im-

viduals against states. If you lob in words like terrorism and national security it cre-ates the possibility of states

D 10 10 ШQC Czech Republic. "The Germans come in

here, take the Austrian subsidies, our taxpayers' money, and then cut Austrian jobs. It's a scandal,"

one worker complained. Anxiety is rife among Austria's 8 million German-speaking people. There is fearful talk of a new Anschluss — the term Hitler used for his 1938

NOKIA

in Brannau said his couneconomic sphere. The common language gives Ger-many a strong influence in try's wariness of German appropriation highlighted literature. publishing. media and culture. Austrian insecurity and lack of self-confidence.

Last weekend, in the bor-Mr Ullram estimated that der village of Braunau, his-torians and intellectuals there was a 10 per cent "greater Germany" continfrom both sides debated Germany's "appropria-tion" of leading Austrian gent in Austria. "But they're mainly elderly and they're dying off. What we're seeing artists. The night before, ... is a rise in separate Aus-Austrian painters and artrian nationalism."

Turkish soldiers and policemen look down on the bodies of four teachers, one a woman, from Hantepe village, near Diyarbakir in south-east Turkey. They were found dead after a kidnapping by separatist guerrillas of the Kurdistan Workers' Party

End of the line for TGV

Paul Webster in Paris

HE fascination successive French gov-ernments with the super-speed TGV rail net-

tic programme had to be) ple that improves cornering drawn up, based on the devel-opment of new trains, built on on traditional tracks has been perfected.

the tilting principle of the British APT. This would allow TGVs to run on existing

News that the SNCF is being forced to rethink a prestige programme, which has resulted in big export orders, will stir up a mixed reaction Critics have accused the state-owned company of ne-glecting traditional lines by overspending on TGV tracks. The system has divided populations, which either

Several weeks later he got a call from the Swedish capital informing him he was a millionaire. Jens Svenson, the man he had prayed for, had been a property developer with no close relatives and had specified in his will that "whoever prays for my

Spaniard finds it pays to pray

A SPANISH businessman and devout Catholic who stopped to pray at a church during a trip to Stockholm ended up a million

The club, operating in defiance of laws against marijuana possession, supplied the drug to about 12,000 San Franciscans who, the club said, used marijuana to ease suffering caused by illnesses such as Aids, cancer and glaucoma.

Universal Press Syndicate said it did not plan to withdraw the strins. - Reuter, San Francisco.

'Dead' Iragi seeks to sue

'I ne state attorney-

Club.

A RETIRED army general has asked the Iraqi president, Saddam Hussein, to let him sue foreign radio stations for alleging he was executed after a folled coup attempt, newspapers said yesterday. In a telegram to President Saddam, retired Gen Abid Mutlak Hummod al-Jubouri said he was shocked to hear himself named on the August 13 radio broadcasts as one of the coup plotters. Many news organisations reported the story, quoting the stilled Iraqi dissident group Al-Wifaq Al-Watani, or National Accord movement, which named the general as one of those executed. A spokesman for the movement said yesterday from Amman, Jor-dan, that it stood by its report and the telegram was a fake. — AP, Boghdad.

EN.99 NEW GSM MODEL 1610. all-purpose lines at about two-thirds of their top speed of aire, Germany's Bild newspaper reported yesterday. The church was empty except for a coffin containing the remains of a man, so Eduardo Sierra, aged 35, knelt down and work has been quietly aban-doned by the Gaullist-led ad-♦ Up to 100 hrs standby-time INC. VAT The British-owned GEC-Althsom, which builds the prayed for the deceased. He then signed a condolence book placed by the coffin after he saw a note saying those who prayed for the NUMBER ministration, which believes expansion is too expensive, Up to 3.5 hrs talk-time 45 name/number memory dead man should enter their name and address. He was the first to echnically out of date and TGV, has said the prototype will be developed by the end of next year and could be in service by 2000. But some technology may have to be FREE LINE RENTAL - for 2 months detrimental to the autoroute stored on SIM programme. worth £35.26 inc. VAT The junior transport minis-ter, Anne-Marie Idrac, conresisted new lines — notably in Provence — or lobbied for TGVs in the hope of stimulat-♦ Fast recharge-55 mins **A A A A** ONE SECOND BILLING - you only 5 selectable ring tones firmed a decision to revise bought from Germany and plans to build a further 1,400 miles of TGV tracks as she soul gets all my belongings". - AP, Hamburg. Italy, where the tilting princi- ing local economies. 88 pay for the airtime you use ONE Weight 250g spoke to French industrialists at the Institute of Industrial MORE POWER - up to 100 hours VODAFONÉ PERSONALWORLD A Special Announcement History. Nine projects are standby-time, up to 3.5 hours threatened, including a high-speed link between Paris and Competine (135.25 (C39 + VAT) ST. 24. 580 An Autumn Visit to Southern Africa talk-time Strasbourg. Although Ms Idrac cited only technical and financial Hantiny Lenter | £17.63 (£15+¥AT) SAAN ISAN IST BEST COVERAGE - with digital State Cats 35.25p per intin (38p+193) E Thie including 6 nights at the 5-star deluxe Meikles Hotel & optional visits to Victoria Falls & Game Parks call clarity and security reasons for suspending the TGV programme, the decision will be seen as a victory for er nat Cals | 11.75p per aim (10p+VAT) SAS 30 8 8.0 For seven departures only we shall be operating a special flight at an especially low tariff to the lovely city of Harare (formerly Salisbury), with its fine Aweekaway from £395.00 located in Harare. It has a host of public facilities • FREE ACCESSORIES - in-car Personal/Wate pass lattic are 6.00-20.00 Hon to fri Manistry Rienzel billog will be chaged a 61.77 or Will per capit. Line with Statistic manipulation of the state without community of white in your periodict commuincluding a swimming pool, a number of fine res-taurants, a coffee shop, travel desk for local excurthe motor industry lobby. Acadapter and leather case together cording to transport ministry sources, funds originally insions and shops. The guest rooms are all air-condi-tioned with full facilities including TV. Travellers museums housing the artefacts of David Livingwith the detailed to your net moth £55 inc. WAT stone. We have a small number of scats available over the period allowing us to make a special offer Carge or Della card. Calle charged a 1 second ande. tended for the TGV will now never fail to be impressed. help completion of a further of six nights in the famous and 5-star deluxe Meikles **DEPARTURE DATES & PRICES** ONTHS FREE 1.400 miles of motorway. Hotel -1996 Tuesdays - per person in a twin RODUCI New super-speed lines pro-LINE RENTAL Besides visiting the many sights in and around Nov 5, 12 \$430-Nov 19, 26 \$395 - Dec 3, 10, 17 \$420 visionally approved in 1992 Harare there are a host of excursion possibilities to WARRANTY Single room supplement £195 would have cost more than the nearby game reserves and the highland areas 1000-14 225 26 INC. VA Cellphones he return an travel, transfers, finights accord tel. Not jucksing amport taxes, travel insur £20 billion, adding to a netsuch as Leopand's Rock, Excursions can be booked in advance to the tourist areas of the famous Victoria work which includes the 15-GUARANTEED PEACE OF MIND is idming contains way Falls (by air) and the Bally Vaughn Game Park. Alternatively you may wish to hire a car and explore year-old pioneer route beon for as long at you i Your phone is connected by our 14 days ween Paris and Lyon, the 0171-6161000 no quibble money back promise. ORDER NOW WITH YOUR CREDIT CARD DETAILS FOR FREE DELIVERY IN 4 WORKING DAYS line to Bordeaux and the the country independently. This is an unique opportunity to visit southern Africa at a fraction of the normal tariff. The price VN Eurostar Channel run. About 3.000 miles of high-speed FREEPHONE 0500 888 000 includes return flights from London Gatwick to track carry 160 million pas-Harare, transfers and six nights' accommodation. Flights are hynon-stop, wide-bodied, scheduled seat VOYAGES JULES VERNE sengers a year and cut travel-CREDIT CARD ORDERING HOTLINE WEEKDAYS GAM TO OPM WEEKENDS SAM TO OPM 21 Darset Square, London NW1 6QG ing time by half. configured Boeing 767 aircraft. Travel Promotions Ltd. ABTA V1661 ATUL 883B Ms ldrac said projects were being put on hold because THE MEIKLES HOTEL, HARARE offices are open for telephone reservations weekday form and at weekends Samita Spin. For personal cal our office hours are Sam to Spin weekdays only. We subject to status and a standard actume contract for each plane with California' Direct int 185 Longe Bichnord Pest, Statustic-statist's and a standard actume contract for each plane with California' Direct int 185 Longe Bichnord Pest, Statustic-statist's and an each plane with California' Direct int 185 Longe Bichnord Pest, Statustic-statist's and an each plane with California' Direct int 185 Longe Bichnord Pest, Statustic-statist's and a status and considers of this offer are available on request. The California' Direct Pest Bichnord Pest, Statustic-statistic-statistic Bichnord Pest, Statustic-statistic Bichnord Pest, Statustic-statistic-statistic Bichnord Pest, Bichnord Pest, Statustic-statistic Bichnord Pest, Statustic-statistic Bichnord Pest, Bichnord P Voted Mrica's finest hotel. Metkles is centrally France had wanted to go too far, too fast. She said a realis-

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TheGuardian

Thursday October 3 1996 Edition Number 46,674 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER Fax No. 0171-837 4530 E-mail: letters@guardian.co.uk Website: http://www.guardian.co.uk

Silence from Number 10

Mr Major knows Mr Hamilton lied. Why so quiet?

SADLY, Neil Hamilton was "too busy" | counter, yet they have said nothing and to attend a reception the Prime Minis-done nothing. If any other leader in the ter invited him to at 10 Downing Street last night. It is a great loss to the picture archives. It would have completed the Hamilton triptych: Hamilton in Prussian lederhosen offering an amusing salute; Hamilton grinning with a gingerbread biscuit the day after the original Guardian allegations, and Hamilton being entertained by the boss he lied to in 1994. Better still would have been to have snapped him inside Downing Street sharing a joke with another guest, Michael Heseltine, the second boss he lied to in 1994. Such a set of pictures would have been a historic commentary upon the moral standards of the Conservative Party in recent history.

The continued silence of Mr Major and Mr Heseltine on the Hamilton affair becomes more extraordinary by the day. Let us recap the most damning and easily proved lie that Mr Hamilton has told — the lie on the basis of which he was initially allowed to remain a Minister. On October 21 the Chief Whip interviewed Mr Hamilton and asked if there was anything he had not declared, or anything else which could embarrass the Government. He said there wasn't. The Deputy Prime Minister directly challenged him as to whether he had ever had any financial relationship with Ian Greer. He promised Mr Heseltine he hadn't. Mr Heseltine said that on the basis of this assurance it would have been unjust to sack Mr Hamilton from his role as Minister in in private? The truth is that no-one charge of corporate probity. We now know that during the very period the much of it up as he goes along. It is, Chief Whip and Mr Heseltine were alas, an all too familiar British fudge. interested in — the late 80s — Mr Greer did indeed have a financial relationship Commons Committee to investigate a interested in - the late 80s - Mr Greer with Mr Greer, amounting to at least two payments totalling £10,000.

know all the facts relating to this en- break this sorry pattern.

How to relieve the pain of poverty

Answer? Look away from Blackpool and towards Australia

community — be they a policeman, a headmaster, a chief executive or a town clerk - did nothing about a senior employee who had probably lied to them they would forfeit any respect or trust. Mr Major, for all his lectures on moral standards in this country, cannot bring himself to utter so much as a batsqueak of disapproval. Some leader. The proficiency of Mr Hamilton and Mr Greer at lying is relevant to what happens next. The papers in the halted libel case stretches to 46 ring files. The High Court trial would have lasted a month and the evidence would have been tested by lawyers who had, between them, spent thousands of hours sifting through the facts, the inconsistencies and the lies. All this is now to be passed into the lone hands of Sir Gordon Downey, the man now charged with investigating allegations of sleaze. What would have been publicly tested will now be privately examined. Sir Gordon's powers of subpoena and crossexamination have yet to be determined. Will witnesses be accompanied by their lawyers? Can be demand to cross-exam-ine the Prime Minister? Can be subpoena the suppressed Central TV documentary on Ian Greer in which the silken lobbyist admits that of course he arranged for MPs to ask questions (something he lied about — again — yesterday)? Can Sir Gordon's committee then separately call and cross-examine witnesses? Will that be in public or knows: Sir Gordon is having to make misdemeanour by one of its members has ended up in farce or in a feeble Mr Heseltine and Mr Major also now reprimand. It is up to Sir Gordon to



THURS TO SMONT MARTIN.

Letters to the Editor Where the living is sleazy

viewed on television.

I am sure if Mr Hamilton were offered enough money he would wear a label around his neck that simply said, "I am a Tory". This would virtu-

ally guarantee a Labour vic-

SURELY it's immaterial who makes donations into

any constituency party's

funds, particularly on the

night make the constituency

more efficient, they were not for the personal use of the MP

tory in the general election. Paul Spellman.

2 Redcar Road,

Cleveland TS14 6DB.

Guisborough

WANT to congratulate you on an excellent piece of investigative journalism (Hamilton admits: I took money, October 2). This must he a fillip to all those who wish to see our parliamentary democracy shaken up and cleaned up. Due to your work, others of Mr Hamilton's ilk must now

be scurrying for the nearest rock pool. D John. 20 Bensham Lane, Croydon CR0 2RQ.

T is a serious common-law criminal offence punishable by imprisonment for the holder of a public office to accept a bribe. Cept a bride. I hope that, as well as being passed to John Major, Sir Gordon Downey, the Parlia-mentary Commissioner for small scale you report. These funds would have been used to buy tables and chairs and computers etc; and while they

Standards, and the Inland Revenue, your file on the Hamilton libel case will also be passed to the Attorney-General and the Grown Prosecution Service.

(Dr) Gary Slapper.

AS Neil Hamilton ever asked for or taken advice ing to elevate the political i the free press to entact ac-debate. MJAmor. when so few other avenues from public-relations people? It is quite obvious that the most effective PR for Mr White House, High Street, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire HP27 0AE. Hamilton is for him not to ap-pear in public and certainly not allow himself to be inter-

are open. Chris E Jones

cially to continue.

'em out".

But is it art?

tance to the modern".

after year, has invited the col-

lege's Works of Art Committee

to organise our sculpture exhi-

53 Whoberley Avenue, Chapelfields, Coventry CV5 8ER. WOULD be happy to con-tribute a few quid to Neil Hamilton's defence fund if it would allow more truth to be revealed. Anybody else in? John Wood. 74 Weston Park,

London N8 9TB.

FEW years ago, the hal-ian Christian Democrats and Socialists were found to be riddled with corruption. Such was the revulsion felt by the Italian people that they brought sufficient pressure to bear to ensure that both par-28 St Johns Hill Grove, ties were disbanded. Surely the time has come for the London SW11 2RG. British people to exert similar pressure on the Tories? Walter Cairns. Broomhurst Hall, 836 Wilmslow Road

Manchester M20 8RP.

Protest reaches **Fever Pitch**

of finds prevented him pur-suing it, then I find it hard to believe that "sources close to the Conservative Party" would not assist him finan-Surely it is far more likely that further sleaze would be revealed in court causing huge embarrassment to the Government and the party. (Dr) Crystal Romilly. HANK you for a wonder-ful front page (A liar and a cheat, October 1). If it was "The Sun Wot Won It", with any luck posterity will record "and the Guardian wot got

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Howells to observe that the British film industry is run by "a small, miserable bunch of chattering classes... ashamed to be associated with hugely profit-able films like Independence Day or Twister" ("End of socialism" MP finds new tar-F Mr Hamilton really had a good case and only shortage get in attack on British filmmakers for shunning block busters, October 1).

I have recently had firsthand experience of this mis-erabilist tendency. When I was adapting my book Fever Pitch for the cinema, I made it quite clear in the script that I wanted both alien spacecraft and hurricanes to feature prominently, in order to make the film a sure-fire commercial success. The grim elitists at Channel 4 Films, however, insisted on the removal of all crowd-pleasing elements, citing --- pah! -budgetary restrictions, even though we had nearly £2 mil-lion to play with. (True, Inde-

pendence Day had a budget 30 or 40 times the size, but then I only wanted small space-

benefits? The two best-known were both | that makes a universal approach such under attack at the Labour conference yesterday: pensions and child benefits. The platform was refusing to restore an i earnings index for state pensioners and proposing to abolish child benefit for children aged 16 or over. Both groups have suffered serious reverses. There has been a threefold increase in child poverty since 1979. One out of three children now lives in a poor household as defined by the European Union below half the national average income. Pensioner poverty has been camouflaged by the increase in average pension income. What this average hides is that while the top 20 per cent of pensioners have received a 70 per cent increase in income since 1979, the increase at the bottom is seven times smaller: a mere 10 per cent of a much smaller income. Proportionately - and shamefully - there are more pensioners in poverty today than there were in 1979.

Barbara Castle was right to be concerned by the erosion of the basic pension since its earnings-link was abolished by the Conservatives in 1980. Since then it has dropped from 21 per cent of average male earnings to 14 per cent today and is projected to shrink to a mere nine per cent by the year 2020. Single pensioners have lost £20-a-week - couples £30. But there is something worse than this general erosion - the widening inequality of elderly households. It is this very increase in in-

IS THERE any future for universal | equality --- the starkest for 100 years -an inadequate response. Barbara Castle's plan included a £5-a-week increase for single pensioners and £8 for couples in compensation for the erosion. Her package would cost £3.5 billion. This is no way of relieving the poverty of the bottom 40 per cent: an extra 71p a day. Why give the affluent pensioner, already receiving sufficient to pay top rate tax, an extra 25-a-week when, with a more targeted approach, the bottom could receive five times that sum?

Gordon Brown's approach to child penefits already shows how much more you can give the poor if you are ready to be more radical. Instead of a child benefit of £10.80, poor families under the new plan could get three or four times as much through educational maintenance allowances. This would be a welcome — and all too rare — redistribution by Labour from the better-off to the poor. What is wrong with Labour's present pensions plan is that

nothing is clear. Having had two separate reviews, it now wants a third. Its current plan is merely a tarted-up version of the present Tory scheme. Whoever wins yesterday's vote - the count will be announced today - both sides should look at the Australian approach. It too has means tests, but applied to top incomes rather than bottom. The betteroff you are, the less basic pension and child benefit you get. That's the right road for universal benefits to take. Fair and redistributive.

Culture is off the agenda

The arts should be a Labour priority not a fringe activity

YOU WILL search in vain for the high profile Creative Nation policy. Labour Conference debate on the arts and cultural policy this week. There wasn't one last year either. And the blind spot is wider than that. Tony Blair's speech on Tuesday touched many bases but not a single remark about the arts. The arts are one of Britain's greatest glories, largest employers and biggest income earners. Most of the best social democratic governments of modern times - in Australia, France, Ireland and Sweden -- have given the arts high priority. So why this silence from Labour?

It is not as if the arts are in blooming health. They have struggled for years to make the best of a mean-fisted and mean-minded cultural atmosphere, a situation which Lord Gowrie yesterday described as devastating. The need for a fresh start and fresh vision could not be greater. Mr Blair is supposedly an enthusiastic convert to Paul Keating's fringes.

Shadow ministers have been working on a beefed-up Keating-influenced strategy document for months now but its publication is still many weeks away. The arts is an area which ought to fit naturally into any Age of Achievement in a Blairite Young Country.

It is not enough to blame this frustrating situation on Jack Cunningham's low-key performance as shadow heritage secretary. Labour's failure so far to rise to the challenge on cultural policy is more general than that. It seems to speak of a lack of confidence, even a suspicion, about the arts. These are needless inhibitions. We have an unrivalled heritage and one of the best arts scenes in the world, as well as the inestimable good fortune of the English language. Cultural policy ought to be a natural priority for New Labour, not a subject fit only for the conference

Staffordshire University, eek Road, Stoke on Trent ST4 2DF.

concerned. Too many stones are being turned over to fuel orge Warwicker indignation largely created Ito expose MPs taking 14 Godwin Road, by the media. Let's return to money to ask parliamentary Bromley, more positive forms of report- questions. Now is the time for Kent BR2 9LQ.

YES, BUT ARE THERE

IN STEVENAGE ?

ANY SIGNS OF

LIFE OTHER THAN

A local writes

RICHARD Thomas paints a picture of Stevenage unrecognisable to those of us who live here (Coy responses to Blair's New advance, eptember 80). The town centre is not

'empty at night". The recently opened Stevenage Leisure Park has two new nightclubs, a modern twelvescreen cinema and a string of restaurants that are buzzing with activity every evening of the week.

Our "sunken pedestrian pathways" are walkways and cycle tracks that enable us to go anywhere in the town without crossing busy in there 20 times. main roads. His informant is wrong to

imply that I would not go | rest of our town, it likes into the Poacher pub. On the stay right up to date. contrary, as it happens to be next door to the Bedwell Barbara Follett. (Labour PPC. Stevenage.) Community Centre, where they hold Labour Party meetings, I must have been c/o 4 Popple Way, Stevena

Herts SG1 3TG.

They have recently reno-vated the Poachers. Like the ones are more likely to appear

New vows, new covenant, new vacuity

E have had more than enough Messiahs (Blair spells out his 'Age of Achieve ment' for Britain, October 2). Stange how they all have the same message: the poor are always with you. I thought the Labour Party existed to provide loaves and fishes not the National Lottery. John N French. 21 Monmouth Street. Bristol BS3 45J.

CATHERINE Bennett pro-vides a cogent critique of Tony Blair's millennarian madness (Trust me, trust my vows and pledges, October 2). The apocalyptic approach of New Labour emphasises Christian socialism but ig-nores the equally important tradition of secular socialism. which goes back two centuries and includes such figures as Owen and Holyoake, Hyndman and Morris, Blatchford and Shaw, the Webbs and the Coles, Bevan and Gaitskell, Foot and Kinnock Nicolas Walter. Rationalist Press Association, 88 Islington High Street, London N1 8EW. HINKING people, even if they are atheists, know

well that concern for others was powerfully reinforced in our culture by Christianity and Judaism, and attempts to express this concern in simple, powerful language will inevitably draw on the language of religion. To do so is appropriate in a way that Tory invocations of God while preaching a selfish individualism are not. David C Webb. Rossmoyne Road, Scotforth Lancaster LA1 4SN.

ONY Blair's speech con-tained countless comendable commitments. Unfortunately his method of paying our way in the world via our emergence as a "skills superpower", is really just clutching at straws. Isn't it obvious that in a world of ever lower trade barriers, it will be the motivated, welleducated, yet significantly lower-paid competitors who

will be the winners? Yet there is a way out, and Barbara Boyce. it lies in Tony Blair's vow to "build a new relationship in Europe." The EU is a powerful block of more than 250 million consumers and savers

which could face down the destructive juggernaut of global-isation. A Labour govern-ment could, by linking up with socialist parties throughout Europe, take on the transnational companies and international financiers. Colin Hines. 11 Park House Gardens, East Twickenham

Middlesex TW1 2DF WELVE-foot-high image

of Tony Blair, red banners cascading round the conference-hall balcony, a "new social order", an "iron chancellor", and talk of preparing

for "a thousand years". I know Labour has moved to the right, but this is ridiculou Dan Falchikov Warwick House, Acre Road, Kingston KT2, AM a prospective Labour Party Parliamentary Candi-date who should be in Black-

pool with my colleagues this week. Unfortunately, there was no one else to do my job. 32 Richmond Road I teach in a college of further | Rugby, Warws CV21 3AB.

all our you

education, a sector regarded as the Cinderella of the educa tion service. Tony, please don't forget us

We bring opportunities to the under-25s who did not achieve their potential in schools. If ending youth un-employment is to be a national priority, further edu-cation must be adequately funded in order to provide the necessary high-quality education and training.

(PPC, Harrogate and Knaresborough. 179 Wickersley Road, Rotherham. South Yorkshire S60 4JP.

HE cant for which Tony Blair was cheered to the rafters was that his party would magically make state education so good that middle-class parents would flock to it in droves and abandon divisive private schools. The only way that state schools will ever get that much better is to put the horse back in front of the cart. If 95 per cent of those parents currently opting out of state education were forced by progressively more and more punitive texation of public schools to use state education, we would see a genuine leap in our stateschool system. Simon Gardner. 18 New Street. Cheddington, Beds LU7 ORL.

NOTE that in his speech, no doubt through time limita-tions, Blair did omit support for the Flat Earth Society. Derek V Gee.

craft.) I understand that screenwriters Richard Curtis (Four Weddings and a Fu-neral) and John Hodge (Trainspotting) had the same difficulty, and as a predictable consequence both films dismally failed to capture the public's imagination.

ISA Jardine (Women, Octo-ber 1) mentions only a If anyone says anything sil-lier in Blackpool, you single work by a single sculp ar it, one tor in the Jesus College exhiwouldn't want to he bition, and portrays the colcan only hope, for Mr Blair's sake, that his other colleagues lege fellowship as hostile to art, "ekkerly dons ... huffing and puffing, parading their smug philistinism and resisshow a better grasp of contemporary economic realities than the hapless Dr Howells. Nick Hornby. She fails to mention that this same fellowship, year

c/o Peters Fraser and Dunlop, 508 The Chambers, a Harbour, London SW10 0XF.

bitions, has commissioned the **Bad language** astonishingly beautiful Quin-centenary Library, and has

enhanced it with sculptures URTHER to your corre-spondence on modern bolby Antony Gormiey and Sir Eduardo Paolozzi. She does locks-speak (Letters, October not mention that Richard 2), don't forget these classics: Long has since twice been in-vited to participate again. She • You phone the Red Lion and are told: "Thank you for does not mention our growng calling the Crowne Red Lion art collection, the vitality of the student-run Visual Art Panoramic Plaza; Tracy speakin', how may I help yew Society, or several artists' gen- You are relaxing at home erosity to the college. You have yourself, Sir, perafter a hard day's work when Jason phones, saying it's haps correctly assessed the tenor of Prof Jardine's writing "just a courtesy call" to tell you his double-glazing men by printing it on your Women's Page, and in illusare in the area. Julie Harrison. trating it with a photograph of 49 Molewood Road Prof Jardine herself in place of one of the 17 artists. Hertford SG14 3AQ.

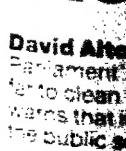
(Prof) Lord Renfrew. ter. Jesus Colles Cambridge CB5 8BL

A Country Diary

STRATHNAIRN: Tibbles fact that the cat would simply carry on having more kittens. Following consultation with the RSPCA and the Cat is she came to be called was probably dumped in the strath and we saw the cat for the first time in the autumn Rescue we decided to trap of last year. At first she would Tibbles and a piece of quail not come for food although meat enticed her into a she regularly visited the gar-den where she ignored all the humane trap and she was then placed in my study. It poultry and, as far as we took half an hour to find the could see, the wild birds. How kittens because, although the she managed to survive last first one was asleep in long winter is a mystery as, in grass, the other two we January, temperatures dropped to minus 26 degrees. four feet down a rabbit hole. They were soon reunited Then a few months go she with their mother. The first started to visit the garden thing Tibbles did was to clean up the kittens and, to more and more nonchalently. ignoring the five miniature our amazement, all three dachshunds when they went were pure white. She then introduced them to the dirt walkabout. Then a few weeks ago she started coming for box and they have used it food when her name was ever since. Homes will have called but she would not come too close. Tibbles always left to be found for all three kittens and then Tibbles will be the garden in the same directaken to the vet for an operation and then we saw her tion. After that, if she wants three kittens in woodland half to come in, so be it, as she a mile away. The tiny kittens can join our four other cats. As I write this, Tibbles is were so young they were unlikely to survive as, despite trying to get some sleep but with three kittens bouncing being mid-September, some nights the temperature had around the room she has litalready dropped to minus 5 tle chance. degrees. There was also the RAY COLLIER

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Please include a full postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a telephone number.



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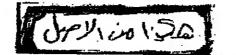
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AN WITTE



Diary

reception on Monday, some Scottish MPs -- not modern

isers --- were chatting when

three glasses of red wine on

to the carpet and sat in the puddle. "Who the f*** are

u?" he said to someone

politely suggesting he stand up, and when Paisley North MP Irene Adams inter-

vened, he looked at her badge and intoned: "It's

people like me who get people like you elected." "But who are you?" she

asked. "I'm staff, that's all you need to know," he said (have you got it yet?). "I make the policy to get you

elected." Enough sus-pense Yes, it's Doliy

Drapert Sensing a commo-tion, Glasgow MP Jimmy

Wray, chairman of the back bench boxing committee,

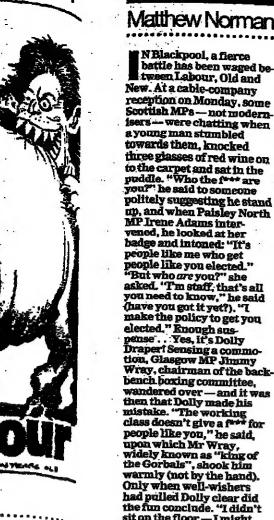
had pulled Dolly clear did the fun conclude. "I didn't

sit on the floor — I might have knocked the wine on to.

a table," says a sober Dolly. "It's all been exaggerated."

a young man stumble

towards them, knocked



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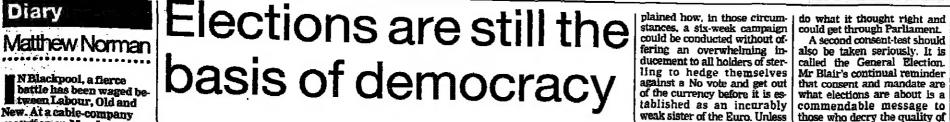
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EGAL problems may yet haunt Mr Tony Blair's rousing confer-ence speech. His witty adaptation of Euro 96 anthem Three Lions ("Seventeen years of hurt/ never stopped us dreaming/ Labour's coming home") was splendid, but when Martin Rowson put the line "Football's buggered off" in a Guardian cartoon in June, Chrysalis records claimed breach of copyright (they settled for three signed copies of the cartoon). Chrysalis yesterday denied giving Mr Blair consent, and said they planned to study the speech closely be-fore deciding what to do.

HE appeal for facts about Christopher Ec-cleston, the man whose fear of publicity arove him into TV acting, comes along well. We have learned that Mr Eccleston lives in a Hampstead mews bouse and that his drama teacher in Manchester told him he wouldn't make it as an actor because his nose was too big. Robert Cramp-ton wins champagne for his fact . . . that his interview with the actor, in which he refused to state his father's job, appeared not in the In-dependent but the Times.



Commentary Hugo Young

..................... party by speaking of the need to fit the currency regime into the real economy and not just HERE is a cloud over the serenity at Blackpool. It consists, im-probably, of the Italian Budget, and its shape is larger than Tony Blair's triumphant hand. Italy has announced a huge cut in its planned fiscal deficit. Spain is taking a simi-

lar track. The Mediterraneans, and not just the northerners, are gatting ready to scramble into the single currency. The EMU project is becoming less with words. Although he talks about employment, he says it must be an "objective" not a criterion. And so say all of us. We helpfully learn that tam-pering with Maastricht is nei-ther a realistic nor a desired abstract and more inclusive. The alibis for the next British government are narrowing. Among the many grand antici-pations of power to be heard here, this is by far the least pre-condition of Labour's approach to EMU. The leadership is in a com plex box. Let us leave aside the

comfortable An Italian pledge is not an party politics. These cannot be ignored, because a core of MPs Italian achievement. They may not make it, even with creative accountancy. "Quali-fying" under the Maastricht criteria is a slippery concept. The manoeuvring in Geralways likely to oppose EMU at any price. But assum-ing Mr Blair could handle them, and wanted to keep strenuously open Britain's chance of joining the entermany, where the real terms will be decided, is far from resolved. But the signals are becoming less ambiguous. The political will behind the curprise that now seems more likely to embrace a majority not a minority of EU members, he faces serious constraints.

rency plan is crowding out the ! The case for his indecision i economic hazards it entails. Instead of being able to bet on the same as for Kenneth Clarke's. We can be certain some kind of equal stand-off that up to and beyond the elecbetween ins and outs, a British tion. the crucial components of policy biased in favour of selfa decision will remain un-available. Who will join, on exclusion looks more likely to be enjoyed in dangerous what terms, under what invi-gilatory regime, at exactly what date: all this will stay unisolation. How is Labour addressing this? Partly by wishful eva-sion. Robin Cook pleased the answered even as the general momentum carries the project forward. As a matter of national prudence, not merely

party tactics, the case against a bankers' ramp. An employ-ment criterion, to be added to any final commitment is strong. Another layer of doubt enthe fiscal and monetary crite-ria, is the easy and obvious as-piration of the left, and has be-come the test any Labour speaker on this subject has to pass. But Mr Cook is careful velops the matter of consent. Mr Blair said in his speech: "Any change will only come with the full consent of the people." He carefully repeats that this could be tested by either a referendum or an elec tion. He therefore does not agree, yet, that the single currency decision is so over-whelmingly momentous that the only proper legitimation can come through putting the specific question to the nation.

This is a prudent caveat: a bold and necessary rejection, thus far, of the Tory hysteria which pushed the Government to make that promise last April

A referendum presents problems of a technical as well as political nature. The assump-tion is that it would be held after the shape of the EMU proposition had been finalised, and a decision on sterling was

the Tories, it could find itself saddled with an mescapable pledge which comes close to being a guarantee that Britain stays out - owing to the awe some risks entailed in the very holding of the referendum. While staying out of the first wave might make sense if the entrants were few, staying out of what turns out to be the next majority project of the de-veloped EU would have a disastrous impact on the national interest

Two alternative possibilities are therefore being discussed. One is the holding of a Euro referendum soon after the election, using whatever pack-

Staying out of the next project of the

developed EU would have a disastrous impact

age emerges from the Inter Governmental Conference as a focal issue through which to establish the general public will on Britain's continuing membership of the EU. Such referendum, properly handled, could be called to settle once and for all a question that has foreclosed any rational British foreign policy since the last election. It would canvass the

single currency issue, but in the wider context of the EU's future. Instead of imperilling sterling after the EU had made its decision, it would confer on

ducement to all holders of ster-ling to hedge themselves called the General Election. Mr Blair's continual reminder of the currency before it is es-tablished as an incurably weak sister of the Euro. Unless that consent and mandate are what elections are about is a commendable message to those who decry the quality of modern democracy. Have we given up on them as the key Labour is more careful than legitimiser of the bigges decisions? At the moment, most

Labour people I speak to think a referendum must happen, though not necessarily be confined to the currency question The hard-headed case says that in case the single currency is a failure, which it might be, then any sensible government will arrange that the people rather than the ministers take responsibility. think that is a better, if dread

fully pessimistic, argument than the more common case, which is based on political timidity. If the Tories are standing against Europe, Labour, they say, must give as small an impression as it can

get away with that it is doing anything different. But Labour's true and ex-plicit position is that it will join a single currency, pro-vided the circumstances are right. Neither Tony Blair nor any other leader has voiced an objection in principle. That is already a different stance from the Tories, whose indecision,

while kept alive by Ken Clarke, is heavily loaded in the opposite direction. It remains open to Labour to underline that difference with fearless clarity, facing down the tabloid and Tory blackmail which in any case seems ever less capable of shifting elec-toral opinion. A manifesto commitment to take sterling into EMU provided certain conditions had been met would supply the test of con-sent which the referendum-mongers are actually hoping will not be made.

This document damns China over Tibet



COMMENT AND ANALYSIS 9

Isabel Hilton

T WAS National Day in the People's Republic of China this week, the annual celebration of nearly five decades of achievement under the wise adership of the Communist Party. Nationalism was the theme: thousands of people attended a dawn flag-raising ceremony in Tiananmen Square, and a People's Daily editorial underscored, for those who had missed it, the message of the moment, "Nationalism... can bring into full play the potential of all nationalities. [It] is the

most effective way of cementing the strength of all nation-alities... to create great undertakings that will shake heaven and earth," it said. The People's Daily published a front-page colour photograph of the eight-year-old child whom the Chinese government have imposed upon Tibet as the reincarnation of the Panchen Lama, Tibet's second highest religious au-thority. The boy chosen by the Dalai Lama, the Tibetans' spiritual leader, has vanished. Beijing was trumpeting its achievements, but Tiber is suf-fering another wave of politi-cal persecution as the government seeks to prise loose the people's devotion to their ab-sent Dalai Lama. The Chinese say that the late 10th Panchen Lama, who died in 1989, and his Party-sanctioned reincar-

nation are supporters of the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese occupation of Tibet, while the Dalai Lama is a traitor to Tibet and, even less plausibly, to his religion. The fitting leader for Tibet, the message runs, is therefore the Panchen Lama.

But a document that has remained secret for more than 30 years and which has now come out of China reveals what the late Panchen Lama really thought of the fate of his compatriots under the Chinese. It is one of the longest, most detailed and most bitter descriptions ever written about the devastation resulting from Chinese policies. "In many parts of Tibet," he wrote, "people have starved to

death. In some places, whole who share the responsibility families have perished and the for the millions of deaths and

ture. "If language, clothes and habits are taken away," he wrote, "then a people will vanish ... How can we guarantee that Tibetans will not be turned into another race?" The Panchen Lama was born in the north-west province of Qinghai, as was the present Dalai Lama. After their victory in 1949 the Chi-nese divided Tibet: one third they named the Tibet Autonothey named the Tiber Autono-mous Region and promised it would enjoy an earlier version of the "one country, two sys-tems" style of government that is now promised to Hong Kong. The rest was divided between several Chinese provinces, including Qinghai. The Chinese agreed not to "reform" the Tibet Autono-mous Region, but no such restraints applied to the rest. Qinghai has never recovered from what was done to it and its peoples in the 50s: nomads were forcibly settled on the high plateau with its thin soil. The result was mass starvation and desertification Monasteries were destroyed and the monks and nuns forced out. Rebellion followed, and was savagely put down; thousands died in the Labour camps. It was the time Mao declared that China could catch the West up in 15 years, if only his magic prescriptions were followed. Some in the Communist Party hierarchy grew worried and tried to restrain Mao and reverse his policies. They encouraged the young Panchen Lama, until then an admirer of the Chi-nese leadership, to write his

report, hoping to use it against Mao. After a long investigation, and over the protesting beads of close advisers, the Panchen Lama went ahead.

Branchen Lama paid for his temerity with more than a decade and a half of prison. Even today the Chinese government continues to hide the truth about that era: millions throughout China died of starvation, but for decades it has been blamed on "natural disaster". And just as today the Beijing leadership claims that Tibet enjoys religious freedom, they also pretend that Tibet's rich religious culture was decimated in the Cultural Revolution, now pronounced one of Mao's "mistakes" rather than in the late 50s and early 60s. That period has not been judged a "mistake" because that judgment would stand as a condemnation of Deng Xiaoping and the others

The Chinese government

claimed that the late Panchen

Lama "loved the party", but as the document reveals, after only a decade of Chinese rule,

terly disillusioned. It is more

than 30 years since his report.

Tibetans are still being ar-

rested, tortured and perse-cuted for their beliefs. And in





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PEAKING of which, it Sis good to see the old Thunderer avoiding the lure of self-importance. Senior executives and European experts were sum-moned to a "think tank" last week by editor Peter Stothard, who explained that its purpose was to find a lan to derail European Monetary Union. After much sucking of pencils, the sole master plan to emerge was a batty scheme to encourage a Labour goveroment to ruin EMU by insisting on impossibly tough convergence rules. An article to this effect duly appeared on Saturday under the byline of George Brock. It's not much, but who

N the Mail on Sunday that sweet-natured old soul John Junor has been considering the behaviour of Chris Evans, who he says has "limited talent". A fortnight ago, it was Liam Gallagher whom Sir John (writing, as always, only after copions research) dis-missed as having "minimal talent". Sir John wasn't answering the phone yester-day (he was at a Kula Shaker recording session, apparently, on percussion), but we hope to confirm his shock move to the Melody Maker very soon.

knows acorns and oak trees, and all that rot.

BSERVED in Black-Opool yesterday was a touching cameo, as a rotund man approached the Observer's Andrew Rawns-ley outside the Imperial Hotel, and began to ramble . effusively about how won-. derful the Guardian is. Mr. **Rawnsley** accepted the praise with good grace, before asking what the man so admired. "Tm the Labour candidate for Tatton," he explained. "Neil Hamilton's constituency

HEW SPELS NEW. S

Cleaning up the sleaze

David Alton is appalled by Parliament's inept attempts so far to clean the stables — but warns that in the end we get the public service we deserve

N THE 1970s manage might question whether this ment trainees were was simply an exercise in distraction. I dissented from the comshown a training film,

Meetings, Bloody Meet-ings. John Cleese paro-died the ineffectual and mittee's report because we failed to discharge our duty to Parijament and to lay finally elentless rounds of meetings to rest the ghost of improper financial involvement. More into which we are all so easily sucked. In politics, the meetimportantly, we had nothing to say about the causes of financial sleaze or about politing is an occupational hazard - and an extremely easy way to obfuscate. Rather than act, ical ethics.

what better course of action than to convene a series of meetings or to set up a com-mittee of inquiry? The more controversial the issue, the

grander the committee. For the best part of two years, Parliament's senior committee, the House of Com-mons Committee of Privileges, inquired into the cash-for-questions scandal. At the end of its deliberations, held in camera, it wound itself up and passed all its papers to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, Sir Gordon Downey. It did so having deleted large sections of the public record. It then declared itself incompetent, in terms of [the strict parliamentary reso-lution which established it, to investigate the range of allegations laid before it during the course of its inquiry. Ob-session with trivia - cod Commons letterpaper and the confidence.

a system that guarantees financial rectitude and transparency. The extraordinary thing is that after Nolan and the endless committee hearings, we are still some way faxes, the use of House of from re-establishing public

nows kept us busy. Cynics | hills: the pursuit of power. | having a financial relation. | It is intolerable that investi- | Fayed investigation

times . -- .-

personal aggrandisement and | ship with Alan Rusbridger bethe protection of privilege. We have passed through a decade in which unbridled individualism has been cultivated, while rapacious competitiveness has been encouraged as good business practice. As Government has pro-

moted this at the expense of an ethic of public service, so the values of the financial jungle have become the civic real tragedy is that most politicians do not regard such amorality as corrupt or have depths it is time for a new with them. At every election of the contrast of th a corrupt system is the great-est danger to this process.

Thoreau once observed that if you cut down all the trees the contradiction of the rules should be mandatory to in-there will be nowhere left for which forbid MPs from ac- clude on this address a decla-

must be registered before it becomes operative, but new interests or changes should also be printed on the front page of the Order Paper for all to see. MPs just do not have the time to monitor the register on a daily basis. In local government, Parlia-ment requires councillors to

values of our own time. The | declare their interests and to withdraw from relevant debates. The same standards must be imposed on Parliaany understanding of the ex-tent of public cynicism. As with all the financial penal-

address, free of charge, cour-In Parliament we must face tesy of the Post Office. It the contradiction of the rules should be mandatory to in-

None of us in politics belongs to the Communion of Saints: the man who never made a mistake, never made anything

the birds to sing. So deep is the level of disenchantment with Parliament that we are in danger of stripping the forare registered. There is no moral difference between est bare. None of us in politics belongs to the Communion of being paid £12,000 a year for a Saints. The man who never consultancy which may inmade a mistake never made volve tabling questions, and anything. But the public has a accepting £1,000 for tabling a right to expect MPs to deliver rules are contradictory. Ambiguities and vague ref-Members' Interests are no longer tolerable. It is palpable nonsense to suggest, as Neil Hamilton has done, that hav-

like — occupied most of the sleazy state is as old as the with a lobbyist is the same as an a "hiring fair".

. .

cepting money for tabling par-liamentary questions but allow them to collect political consultancies so long as they work of a conflict firmly before the voting public. The electors might also reflect on the amount of time an MP with large financial interests will have left to serve them.

Parliament itself will want to reserve the right to deal one-off question. Today's with MPs who breach its rules. But the Committee on Members Interests and Privi-

erences in the Register of leges and the Parliamentary Ombudsman have yet to demonstrate that they have the resolve or the powers required to put an end to what

gations currently take months on end without any sense of urgency; that the buck is cause you buy the Guardian. Since Nolan, an interest passed from committee to committee, with some MPs who are themselves in receipt of retainers appointed as parliamentary policemen. MPs seem to have no under-

standing of the public percep-tion that we are all on the make, with our snouts in the trough. Both our voting system and the funding of parties provide temptations. State funding of political parties could remove the insidious connection between politics and vested interests, and relieve us all of the obligation to follow the fortunes of Chelea Football Chub in anticipation of where the next millionpound political donation will

come from. Subsidiarity and the redistribution of power to the local-ities could undercut the quangos - and the recipients of political patronage who populate them. Ministers currently have within their gift some 40,000 quango appointments, many of them salaried. Where quangos are unavoidable, the Public Accounts Committee could be given wide-ranging powers, closer to the Congressional model, to vet appointments and investigate finan-

cial detail. But ultimately it is only the public will for an honest politics, and public outrage at political sleaze, that can guarantee improvement. Democracies get the politicians they deserve and the ethics they vote for.

David Alton, Liberal Democrat MP for Mossley Hill, was a member of the House of Commons Committee of Privileges during the first AI

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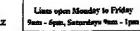
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10 OBITUARIES

Robert Bourassa

Riding tigers in Quebec

Quebec Robert Bourassa, who has died aged 63. used cunning, concessions and wily political manoeuvring to thwart outright separatists in the prov-ince but failed to quench smouldering nationalist fires. Twice premier, from 1970 to 1976 and from 1985 until 1994,

Bourassa faced two of the worst crises to beset modern Quebec and left a patchwork legacy that includes the much-reviled language laws and the massive northern hydroelectric projects which pour power into the northtern United States.

Widely regarded by Canadi-ans outside Quebec as a closet separatist, Bourassa made ambiguity into a political act spousing neither the federalist status quo nor Quebec separation while trying to assuage Francophone nationalist sentiments by creating a nation within a state. In that, he reflected the mixed emotions of many Quebecers, torn between a sense of national des-tiny and the security of the Canadian umbrella.

Canada's Liberal prime minister Jean Chretien paid tribute to Bourassa yesterday while conceding that the two often differed sharply over how to address Quebec's demands. "We didn't always agree. That's politics," said Chrétien. "But this isn't the time to dredge up political quarrels. I think we should pay homage to a man who gave his life to the public service, a good worker, who always sought solutions to the

problems facing him." Soon after Bourassa be-came leader of the provincial Liberal Party in 1970, and Quebec's youngest ever pre-mier at 36, Quebec was lunged into the "October criais", when a small group of Front de Liberation du terrorists kidnapped British trade commissioner Cross and Pierre Laporte, a Liberal cabinet minister. Laporte was murdered. Cross was eventually freed

PREMIER of arrested in the province, was uebec Robert accused of cowardice and of being Trudeau's lap dog. Two decades later Bourassa was hailed for his courage and steady nerve when an In-dian land claims crisis turned violent and Mohawks barrl-caded themselves into a compound at Oka, near Montreal. Again the army was deployed in force but despite a tense. summer-long siege. Bourassa managed to avod a bloodbath

and the crisis was resolved peacefully. Oka also was a brutal test of his personal priorities. A sunlover who spent long vaca-tions in Florida and, when it was warm enough, would pore over official documents on the roof of his Quebec City office, Bourassa had been diagnosed with malignant mela-noma just before the Oka crisis began but, against his doctor's advice, postponed treatment for months until it had ended

Later he would explain that "any soldier who goes into battle does so at the peril of his own life and that applies to a head of state." Yet while no one doubted his personal courage, few saw Bourassa as either a soldier or a head of state. His public persona was stiff, almost wooden, espe cially when he was speaking English, and his ambiguous

shifting to deal with the irreconcilable demands of a province deeply split between separatists and federalists satisfied neither. Quebec's large Englishspeaking minority and most of its immigrant population never forgave him for Bill 22, the first of the controversial language laws which made

French the only official language in Quebec and severely restricted access to English schools. At the same time the law infuriated the Frenchspeaking majority, which feit it didn't do enough to protect and promote the French

language. Bill 22, in the words of one of his own backbenchers, made Bourassa "the most hated man in Quebec" and led

He also spent time in Brus-



Middle man ... Robert Bour a struggled with conflicting forces

economic fallout caused by ederalist superstructure encompassing its member states. That would later give rise to perhaps incautious uncertainty over its future political shape. But this time Bourassa was more cautious. public musings about a simi-lar reshaping of Canadian fed-"I have more maturity to face problems." he said. eralism, a view strikingly similar to that held by Lucien "When you're entering politics at 51, it's not like entering Bouchard, the current Parti Quebecois premier of Quebec. politics at 22."

But language-politics, ever intertwined in Quebec, were soon to haunt him again. In 1988, the Canadian Supreme Bourassa briefly resurfaced during the first Quebec refer-endum in 1980, when the sepsratists were soundly defeated. Court ruled the French-only But it was not until three years later that he made a provisions of Quebec's laws were unconstitutional. The stunning political comeback decision was to lead to Bourelected again as provincial Liberal leader. Two years assa's most convoluted compromise

later the Liberals were back He brought in new legislain power. Bourassa, who had been telling friends since he tion that retained Frenchonly signs outside but r-old living in a

voked a backlash elsewhere in Canada which helped to doom the Meech Lake constilational accord which had been designed to finally end the "Quebec issue" by giving the province special powers within Canada

In the end Bourassa, who had struggled for decades to meet the conflicting forces within Quebec with complex compromises often infused with deliberate vagueness, failed to satisfy either the sep aratists or the federalists.

Last year, after he had left politics for the final time, the Parti Quebecois came within a hair of winning a second referendum on separation. Bouchard promises there will

another and the likelihood

The Guardian Thursday October 3 1998

Pat McGeown **Child of the Troubles** who grew into politics

40 arguably brings the number of Provisional Irish Republican Army volunteers who died as a result of the 1981 hunger strike to 11. The damage caused to his health by 42 days without food resulted in heart disease which finally caught up with

The 1981 hunger strikes were organised by Republican prisoners campaigning for 'political' status. They were a turning point for the Provisionals, because the action showed the organisation that a political move-ment could be built which might replace the futile goal of removing the British state from Ireland by force. But it was a lesson taught at a terri-ble cost to individuals and their families.

McGeown, who was serving a 15-year sentence for his part in one of many bombings of Belfast's Europa Hotel, had left instructions that if he lapsed into coma he was not to be removed from the hunger strike until his death. But the efforts of the civil rights campaigner Father Denis Faul to get the families to in-tervene and end the senseless deaths paid off.

On August 20 McGeown had lapsed into unconsciousness. His wife Pauline was at dside and recalled: "Pat took had and started convulsing in pain. I could not bear the sight of him suffering so much and decided to call on medical supervision to relieve his agony." He was the last IRA man to venture so close to death through star vation, but the experience seriously damaged his health. On his 1985 release he involved himself in the IRA's political wing and was elected Sinn Fein councillor for Lower Falls. He rose to lead Sinn Fein as the largest group on Belfast City Council and masterminded its success in the May 30 elections when the party gained its highest ever share of the vote, 15.5 per

cent McGeown was a child of the Troubles, manning Falls Road barricades in west Belfast at the age of 10 and a member of the Fianna Eireann, the IRA's junior wing, at 13. By his 15th birthday he had already seen his first dead body, that of fel-Fignns memb e Geran

McAuley, who was shot dead

as loyalists attacked the Clon-

HE DEATH of Sinn 14 At 16 he was interned for ten to the other side," said Fein councillor Pat 18 months and shortly after Attwood. "You could disagree McGeown at the age of his 1975 release came that with Pat but you could never final imprisonment. By the time of his 1985 release, apart from the hunger strike he had made an escape attempt and

spent several years on the hlanker" protest When he joined the IRA volunteers were plentiful among the young without a stake in society, McGeown told writer Liam Clarke 10

years ago. The massive influx of British troops and the resulting harassment "cre-ated an atmosphere of vioence and the desire to fight back ... initially it's respon-sive." And, he added, "you don't need to go outside your area, you don't need to go outside a house to make a bomb. It's a fairly straightforward technical sort of subject."

As Sinn Fein Belfast council leader he managed to form strong friendships outside the Republican movement and even across the traditional religious divide. In spite of their diametrically opposed friend of Billy Hutchinson, the Progressive Unionist Party talks delegate who served a senience for murder-ing a Catholic while a mem-

ber of the Ulster Volunteer Force. To some the relation-ship proved that the working ses of Belfast have more in common than what divides them.

The Social Democrat and abour Party councillor Alex David Sharrock Attwood was also close to McGeown. "At times he was logmatic but he was, of all of born September them, the one who tried to lis-

dispute that he passionately believed in his politics. "I remember him pleading with unionists across the council chamber, 'tell me what it is that you want to be reassured about, explain to me your fears'. I think he was a point of contact for union-

ists across the community. When the IRA bombed the Shankill Road in October 1993, killing nine prote and the bomber. Attwood remembers McGeown seeking him out and saying: "Would you tell John Hume not to

give up on us?" As a close ally and friend of Gerry Adams, he worked intensively to bring about the September 1994 ceasefire. Regarded as a touchstone by many politicians and journal ists in Belfast, he had the dis

tinction of always calling the political situation right. Disappointed at the failure of the ice process to bring every body to talks, his most recent views were that another IRA ceasefire was not likely in the immediate future.

He married Pauline in 1976 and they have five children. He was found dead on Tuesday evening at his home in the New Lodge in north Belfast, having not been seen for several days. Bedevilled by ill-health since the hunger strike, his heart had finally given out.

Patrick McGeown, politician





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ool defore line linen. Prili Minister Pierre Trudeau, claiming Quebec faced an "Insurrection" imposed the War Measures Act, suspended civil liberties and deployed thousands of troops across Quebec.

In the aftermath of the Ocsels, studying the then Eurotober crisis, Bourassa, who pean Community and its had allowed hundreds to be emerging notions of a loose

7as a 12 feat in 1976 at the hands of the lower middle class neighbour separatist Parti Quebecois. hood in Montreal's east end Bourassa quit, bis political career seemed finished and he left Canada in a self-im-posed exile to teach in the US. that he would be premier, had nanaged if twice. The ever-present conun-drum remained. This was of

palancing nationalist sentiments in Quebec while keep-ing the province within Can-ada, and coping with the taste in the mouths of both Anglophones and Franco-

lingual signs indoors; in an of the eventual breakup of Canada looms even larger attempt to preserve the 'French face'' of Quebec while at the same time meeting the demands of the English-speaking minority. But the hybrid left a bitter

today than when Bourassa first faced its challenges more than a quarter century ago. Paul Koring

Robert Bourassa, politician, born phones and ultimately pro- July 14, 1933; died October 2, 1996

ard Street area. Pat's father Joseph at first thought that his son was the victim because they were so similarly dressed.

He was briefly imprisoned

in the Irish Republic for explosives offences when he was

To the campaign ... Pat McGeown

Frances Lear

The feminist rebellion of a Hollywood wife

prior to our appearance all

located at the heart of the

a widespread habit of loud

public gabbiness. Wendy Lesser broods on the

London Review of Books

the psychological in the

conversion of the personal into

was darkness and antiquity.

RANCES Lear, who has died aged 73, was a self-made media entrepre-neur, writer, feminist, new media enthusiast, multi-millionaire and former Hollywood wife.

Petite, elegant and known for her gutsiness, her out-spokenness and her volatility, Lear launched herself into the media world in 1988, when she put \$25 million of her divorce settlement into starting up a magazine named afte herself. In a publishing world where women's magazines were run by men and filled with images of young models, diets and man-catching tips, Lear's was targeted at intelligent, affluent women over 40. Women who, as the maga zine's slogan put it, "weren" born yesterday." Lear's enormous wealth -

estimated at between \$100 and \$112 million - was the result she made the first of three



Stormy ... Frances Lear

of a divorce agree after 28 years of marriage to Hollywood magnate, Norman Lear. He was the third of Frances's husbands; the first two marriages were short-lived. When her second hus-band was unfaithful to her daughters.

hospital. In later years she spoke candidly about her organisation, People for the American Way, Frances felt herself increasingly over-shadowed. In a New York Times article in 1981, she had lost interest. By then she bouts of manic depression. In an autobiography, The Second Seduction, she also wrote about being sexually abused by her steplather from the age wrote about how a woman in Hollywood is a non-person "unless she is under 21, pow-erful, or a star." Being a of 12, her alcoholism and drug taking. Her magazine pub-lished hard-hitting features Hollywood wife was to be inon issues such as incest and domestic violence, several visible, Lear felt, and that was something she was determined not to be. When she realised that, as she put it. "we had become he", she dewith personal accounts writ-When she met Norman Lear in 1956, Frances had al-ready tried a number of jobs cided to leave the marriage. During the six years that she masterminded Lear's, cir-culation doubled from its iniin advertising and retailing. She willingly gave up a post as a department store sportstial 250,000. But her temperamental nature, her autocratic style and fast-changing stable wear buyer to move with Lear to California, where she stayed home and raised two of editors and writers remained much criticised in media circles. Caroline But as he became more successful through the 1970s, ac-Miller, Lear's final editor-in-

suicide attempts and spent | quiring a movie studio and | chief, described working with | Organisation for Women to three weeks in a psychiatric | founding a civil liberties | Lear as "always an adventure | pass the Equal Rights Amendment, and she directed her - stormy but worth it." Lear's ceased publication in writing towards helping March 1994. largely because, women make positive was making videos for women, geared to subjects

like legal rights and personal finance. She also wrote Frances Lear's Guide to Work and Family in the 21st Cen-tury, which is still awaiting publication. She often said that the

second half of her life was far better than the first, and she spoke freely and proudly about her colourful love-life, especially, late in her life, about a succession of much younge lovers. But her most consistent assion was feminism. In the 1970s, she worked for

Democratic candidates with feminist platforms, in the early 1980s for the National

changes in their lives. "Victimisation had always been my identity. The change came with the women's move ment — it changed my life, she told the Guardian in 1992. "It occurred to me in the 1970s that I didn't have to be

unhappy. I could find my own voice and live my own life . The women's movement, in time, will change the lives of all women throughout the world." She leaned towards her younger interviewer and added, "You are living my leg-acy. How dare you not appreciate it?"

Sue Woodman

Frances Lear, born July 14, 1923; died September 30, 1996 cian, Impresario, 71.

Members of the clergy: For

Birthdays

Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division. 72; Christopher Bruce, dancer and choreographer, 51; Chubby Checker, rock singer, 55; Lord Denham, former Conservative Whip, House of Lords. 69; Roger Ellis, former Master of Marlborough College, 66; Sir Ter-ence English, cardiothoracic surgeon, master, St Catha-rine's College, Cambridge, 64; Prof Philippa Foot, philoso-pher, 76; Neale Fraser, former tennis player, 63; Garry Herbert, rower, 27; Sir Roger Hervey, ambassador to Mexico, 62; Lord Knights, ormer chief constable, West Midlands, 76; Ruggero Raimondi, operatic bass, 55; Sir Shridath (Sonny) Ramphal QC. former Commonw ecretary-general, 68; Tim Melville-Ross, director-gen-eral, Institute of Directors, 52; Steve Reich, composer, 60; John Suthern, jockey, 44; Gore Vidal, author, 71; Judge Monique Viner, QC, 70; George Wein, jazz musi-

Death Notices HOGO, Jestus Fiery of Ashington, I umberland, died on September 28th Bi years. I will miss you ded Devic

MUIR, Kenneth Artbur, Sept 1995, peacefully in hospital ag INUER, Kasmeth Artisar, September 30ti, 1995, passhuly in hombial speed B years. Emerima professor of English Literature, Liverpool University and Fellow of the Bri-ish Assdemy. Loved husbard of the Iske Mary, dear father of Katharine (docessed) and Ozek daughter in Isw Evelyn, grand-children Thomas and Kathyrn. Privale ore-mation at Landican Cremaphilm. Birken-head Wirral on Wednesday October 9th at 13.35 am followed by memorial service at 32.55 Anno Farthy Towers only please. donations to Leukemin Research, Great Or-mond Street, London WCT All enguithes by JW Bell & Son. Die House, Pastre Flood, Noreton, Wirral 46 7TG, Tal, 0151 677557.

Moreton, Wirnel L46 7TG, Tél, UT34 er reast-Willacon-Jean's, diud 30 Beptember 1996 atter a kong figit against cancer. Belowid wire of Hugh, proud mother of Semit, Eliza-beth and Michael, deur daughter of Tom Heam, and genetrous Intend in Ingen, Alao tale Bourzafile College and CCETSW. The Ingent State College and CCETSW. The International Road, Solitual on Monday 7th Ostavards Road, Solitual on Monday 7th Ostavards Road, Solitual on Monday 7th Ostavards Road, Solitual on Manday, 7th Ostavards, Solitual on Manday, 7th Ostavards, Solitual Solitual Solitual Colleges, 7th Nonetro, 7th Solitual Soli

Births

O2. al G scond chuid of Ruth and

and Reg a baby son

To place your announcement lelephone 9771 713 4567. Fax 0171 713 4129.

god of avoiding the issue.

Other deities that deserve a mention were Pilobricus, the god of modern art; Comepetita, the goddess of the ever hopeful. Cuspid, the Roman tooth fairy, and Lilo, the god of fugitives Suctonius, the god of puddings; Skoda and Lada, the goddesses of cheap chariots; Cariociae, the goddesses of embarrassment Dianisius, the god of royal lovers; Compilus, the god of

to remain anonymous, reported that Specius and Spurius, the twin gods of Deity competition in the Current Archaeology September issue. Thanks to Joseph Nicholas

jackdaw@guardian.co.uk;fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon

Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mail Road, London ECIR 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

Jackdaw report quotes the US Humane then fine."

New balls

0

A NORTH American firm has turned a pet project into com-mercial reality by developing plastic replacement testicles for neutered dogs. Called Neuticles, the jelly

bean shaped devices are implanted into a dog's scrotum in a two minute procedure immediately following removal of the natural devices. They come in five sizes which, apparently, span the market from Great Dane

down to Chihuahua. The product has sold so well in the US and Canada since it's launch in March that the manufacturer is now considering a blitz in the dog

My particular generation -Society as saying: "If it's going to encourage owners to have their dogs neutered, baby-boomers, roughly midway between President Taken from the Plastics and Clinton and Madonna --- has taken this tendency to an extreme. We would be likely Rubber Weekly. Thanks to Dr Mark Clemens. to believe that no one before us had argued for school desegregation, worried about

loving UK. A news agency

Fire escape DON'T DROP THE CIGA-RETTE ENDS IN THE

the apolitical masses, lived in split-level houses, used automated tools, got sick because of mislabelling, got WASTE PAPER BASKETS OR SOMEWHERE ELSE AND VERIFY THE THING well because of tetracycline, THE WHOLE TIME OF slept on Posturepedic beds. favoured clitoral sex. YOUR LIVING IN THE laughed at Scientology, HOTEL, IT IS OF GREAT mocked Interpol, complained about wolf-whistles, turned UTILTY FOR US THE OPER ATIVE AND PROMPT AN-NOUNCING ANY FIRE BEG from the vomitous GINNING OBSERVED IN rubberiness of US cooking to THE NEARNESS. the splendeurs et misères of From the instructions of what tapenade, consumed hallucogenic drugs, taken to do in case of fire in a hotel over multi-use college bedroom in Bucharest, spotted buildings to protest unjust wars, or elsewhere indulge in by Jean Howarth.

Birth thangs

IT IS a common narcissistic fantasy to believe that the world as we know it started with our own birth, and that

IF YOU are a "nervous flier," immediately swallow enough Valium to induce hibernation in a polar bear. (Be sure to attach somewhere to your person a highly visible note indicating your final destination. contact numbers, blood type, etc, in the event that they cannot revive you when it is time to deplane.) If you are susceptible to

Fear of flying

motion sickness, colour-coordinate your clothing with the meal you ate beforehand. To take your mind off the fact that it now looks as though the pilot will have to go through the thunderstorm close your eyes and try to imagine that you are Charles Lindbergh and that this is the adventure of a lifetime. Soon you will land at Le Bourget field and be carried off by hordes of adoring French people shouting nice things about America. (Far fetched admittedly)

Yorker.

been?' Christopher Buckley explores the joys of small planes and major traumas for the New enthusiastic (depressed) about the current market outlook?

alloury and

ministers: "What style of Models: "Do you do mostly worship do you use print or catwalk?" If she Cowboys: "Where have you unswers "print", express admiration. If she says "catwalk". express dmiration. If she says showroom", express admiration. "Do you have your head shot with you?" Her head shot is a photograph of her face. Look at it for a long time, then say: "Nice commercial shot, but it

doesn't capture vour tremendous presence." Deep! Farmers: "How's the weather

Very small talk

Firemen: "Are you a professional or a volunteer?" "Tell me about some of the big

Engineers: "What project are you involved in now?" "Project" is the key word here. This is the most effective question a layman can ask an engineer to get them talking. "How would (name of his

speciality) impact on my daily life?" Money people: "Are you

cowboyed most?" Computer nerds: "Do you have Windows?" Barmen: "How's business?" Crossword-puzzle enthusiasts: "Which books do you work on?" If he says the Times, give a gasp of awe. Men's Health giving advice on "How to talk to anyone



have added on to the title of the article "and how to act a total bore," **Dodgy deity**

about anything". They should

THE FIRST winning entry was Taebreca, goddess of competitions, devised by Jennifer Howard of Bedford (who also gave Blacandecca, the god of household repairs and improvements; the Vimpil, gods of speed, presiding over road building and fast food; Toisrus, the god of childhood, and Lastordus, the dreaded spirit of sobriety).

The second winning entry was Optrex. the all seeing king of the Gods, devised by Tony Barnes of Tynemouth (who also gave Mafia, the invisible god mother; Hypercostus, the god of overcharging, particuarly for central heating installation;

Quota, the Germanic goddess of trawl fishing, introduced under the Treaty of Rome -Pax Romana; Ambiguus, the god of manifesto writing, and his consort Amnesia; and referendus, the

archaeological dictionaries. A book editor, who wished archaeological publishing, are still being worshipped. The results of the Devise a

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Eurotunnel 'deal' a rush job, page 12

Fairer trade driven by consumer, page 12

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

FinanceGuardian

Shares break 4000 barrier Political driver

lan King

HE FTSE-100, the index of leading shares, smashed through the 4000 barrier for the first time yesterday, amid continued optimism on corporate results and the continued strength of the economy.

After breaking through 4000 in the first minute of trading, the Footsie finished 22.9 points up at 4,015.1, set-ting a new closing high for the second day running. The new peak is the latest

achieved by an increasingly confident stock market, which received a further boost last week when Ameri-ca's central bank, the Federal Reserve, unexpectedly decided not to raise interest rates.

Equity strategists said that apart from the Fed's decision last week, the strong perfor-mance was due to the increasing attraction of shares in comparison to gilts, and to the continued good news coming from the corporate sector.

Windfall

guessing

game for

Norwich

investors

HREE million Norwich Union policyholders are

to receive free shares

next year after the company

said yesterday it is to become

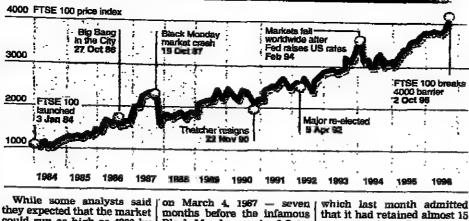
the first mutual insurer to

seek a listing on the London

BULL MARKET

BULLS argue the market should continue rising for the rest of the year, helped by the continuing flood of money to institutions, further good news from companies and a po-ble surge in takeover activity ahead of the election.

Philip Wolstencroft, equity strategist at broker Merrill Lynch, says: "Hy guess is that it will be around 4200 this time next year. Once people have got the election behind them and interest rates have started rising, people may be less sanguine but, for the moment, rates are staying where they are and earnings coming through are quite strong."



Heading for a fall?

could run as high as 4200 by Black Monday crash of Octoper cent of its funds under the end of the year, others management in cash, due to fears about a possible crash, and was therefore missing ber that year — and reached warned that share prices are now so high that a "correc-tion" — the City's euphemism for crash — looks inevitable. 3000 on August 11, 1993. This year, the index opened at 3689.3, but after rising until April on the back of takeover out on one of the strongest rallies in market history.

The Footsie, which is an inbids - such as Granada's £3.9 billion assault on Forte and dex of shares in Britain's biggest 100 quoted companies, started life on January 3, 1984 at 1000. It broke through 2000 Rentokil's £2.1 billion swoop on BET --- slipped back to the year's low of 3632 on July 16. Since then, despite an absence of further takeover activity, it has risen sharply, following increasing evidence

wort Benson - one of the few that the economy is strengthmarket experts in January to forecast that the Footsie ening, consumer activity picking up, and because the would break 4000 this year ---continued low level of inter-est rates makes staying with said: "Christmas has come early." cash an unattractive option Strong company results for institutional investors. were a key factor, he added. "Institutions are continuing

But the peak could provide further embarrassment for to switch from cash to equihas further to go,"

Advisers' fees Advisers often get paid whether or not their party comes out on top and they hit £1bn mark get paid more, by way of a seven figure fee, if they are on the winning side. A single large bid can send an adviser's income as M&A mania mushrooms

CITY advisers are set to Crake in a record £1 billion-plus in fees this year as merger mania in the bill for advice on Gra-nada's £3.9 billion bid for Forte came in at £170 mil-lion, around 4.4 per cent of sweeps corporate Britain, writes Sarah Whitebloom. the value of the deal - par for the course. So far this year 1,239 According to figures

released yesterday by Ac-quisitions Monthly magadeals have been done many more are in the pipeline, with mergers taking weeks or months to put together — compared with 1,168 mergers in the first zine, 1996 is on course to exceed heady days of the 1980s takeover boom. The value of mergers is forecast to come in at £70 billion for nine months of 1995. the full year — compared to £45 billion in 1989. Bonus payments across the M&A (mergers and ac-

Charging £200-plus an quisitions) industry are hour, these advisers are on course to break the certain to follow this trend upwards - outstripping £1 billion barrier. Most of even last year's record the fees go to investment bankers, the underwriters Christmas payments. Top of the financial advisers pile for 1996 so far is NM Rothschild which has and the lawyers involved in a takeover — although PRs, brokers and other bit play-£8.5 billion-worth of bids under its belt. ers have done nicely too.

... or BLOODBATH?

APART from PDFNPs Tony Dys, whose tears about a po ible crash have led him to keep 15 per cent of his funds cash, there are plenty of bears who argue that stocks are

now looking expensive, They say that, askie from a likely US interest rate rise, the last quarter of the year tends to be nervous, with the closeness of the election adding tension.



Richard Jeffrey, an analyst

at investment bank Charter-house Tilney, said the main

reason for the market's strength was the amount of

cash available to institutions

like pension funds. Philip Isherwood of Klein-

for robust market



the field of health care insurance and developing direct (and more recently Internet) selling services, it has had to rely on new life policyholders as the main source of capital. A public quotation will en-able it to expand both in traditional life and pensions ser-

11

Edited by Alex Brummer A FTER hovering just be-low the 4000 mark for al-most a month, the FTSE

has finally overcome its inhi-bitions and come robustly through the barrier. Given that the UK economy is on the verge of a further growth surge, following the pause earlier this year, there is some reality in the move — but the immediate downside but the immediate downside risk is that the authorities will have to move interest rates up to prevent overheat-

ing as the economy moves towards full production. Remarkably, two political factors are also fuelling the current rally. First, the sharp covergence of bond yields in continental Europe on the prospects for monetary union has driven UK government bonds higher and closed the gap between gilts and Ger-man bund yields. That has made equities more attractive vis a vis gilts, a trend which could continue should the UK edge towards monetary union

conference speech. The second contributory factor is Tony Blair himself. The successive speeches by Gor-don Brown and the Labour leader, with their focus on tight public spending controls and a low inflation strategy.

have served to ease City fears about a Labour victory. While there is still certain to be a pre-election sell-off, as fund managers hold more cash, for the moment the dragons of the

past have been slain, No doubt fund managers like Tony Dye of UBS will again feel pressurised as the FTSE steams by. However, in current volatile market and political conditions the UBS cash cushion will be a great comforter to investors.

vices and into new products. As a company seeking new cash, in addition to rewarding life policyholders, the ulti-

mate owners of the company, Norwich Union will have a tougher task ahead than some of the other mutuals — nearly all building societies - coming to the market. It will need to demonstrate that its life business is holding its own in a competitive market place and is cost effective. Almost every conversion or financial merger is accompanied by promises of few or no lost jobs: almost all lead to redun-dancies as the shelter of mutual ownership is shed and there is greater focus on prof-its and dividends.

We know that Norwich Union's general insurance company made profits of £111 mil-lion last year but the profitability of the life business will remain an unknown quantity until a full Stock Exchange prospectus is distributed next spring. The society's decision to change status is entirely understandable: but even a £4.7 billion quoted vehicle could be vulnerable to takeover unless it performs.

Mini exodus

HERE were many brave pledges made by the German car company BMW when it bought Rover from British Aerospace three years ago. This week's decision to go to South America for engines for the new mini puts those promises into a more realistic perspective. Most immediately, the deci-

sion shows how determined BMW is to boost profits at Rover. Profit margins are notoriously thin on small cars. The \$500,000 joint venture engine plant with Chrysler will slash costs. It has the added virtue of applying pressure on the Government to con-

as Tony Blair hinted in his

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stock market. But policyholders must wait six months before they learn the size of their windfall because Norwich refuses to

Richard Miles

confirm estimates of \$500 to \$700. The flotation, expected to take place next June after an extraordinary general meet-ing in the spring, will put a value of between \$4 billion-£4.5 billion on the restructured group, ending 200 years

of mutuality. £1.8 billion of the capital raised will be used to buy out the general insurance busi-

ness from the mutual's life fund, insulating life insurhidden value of its overseas operations, which last year contributed 28 per cent of its ance policyholders from the volatility of the general insurpremium income



Going public . . . after 200 years of mutuality in Surrey Street, Norwich. Below: how the Guardian broke the news in July PHOTOGRAPH: SIMON HADLEY

get date for gamy answer @ 1 reget yoursers on got windfall Ingentibe Cibn-pitte @ Jure Norwich Union set to float

volatility of the general insur-ance business. Allan Bridgewater, the group chief executive, said a stockmarket listing would also boost Norwich's finan-

ers will qualify for free | tomers with individual penshares. Holders of motor, household, other general poli-cies and health-care contracts sions, annuities, term assurance and unit-linked policies will also receive a windfall. will be excluded

To qualify for a hand-out, policies must have been in force at midnight last Tuesday and remain so until the extraordinary general meet-

Sede Detty Fran ts for the en gine plant that Rover once built in the Midlands.

But the decision is a serious set-back for British engineering. The engine in what was one of the most successful cars ever made will no longer be developed, or built, in the UK. Rovers' control over its own destiny has clearly been weakened. And BMW's readiness to go far afield to solve Rover's problems has been signaled.

But the South American solution also highlights the real-ity of the global marketplace. The Government talks much of inward investment and the UK's success in attracting it. But there are threats too from these ebbs and flows of money and orders. The mini will be fresh capital, the life fund will powered by an American-debe able to huy out the ceneral signed engine built in a South insurance company and re-in-American factory commisvest the proceeds in a more traditional portfolio. sioned by a German company. Ford and General Motors

In the Norwich Union case, mutual status has also are globalising their opera-tions. The chances are that restricted the society's access more development and more manufacturing could go over-seas. And politicians can do to capital. As the company has grown in recent years, becoming an important force in precious little about it.

Cabinet is split on rush to sell air traffic control revises profits

cial strength and show the

Robecca Smithers, Keith Harper and Simon Beavis

HE Treasury is fighting a campaign to rush through the privatisa-tion of the air traffic control service in the face of growing objections from senior minis-

ters in other departments. The Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, and Treasury colleagues had hoped to win cabinet approval for the sale, which could raise between £600 million and £1 billion ahead of the election, in time for it to be unveiled at next week's Conservative Party But their plans to push

through a sale or a franchise | £230 million. deal without new legislation have run into fierce resis-

longht out in a cabinet sub- out before the CAA dares to off. Our air is not for sale."

.

committee, chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Heseltine, who has previously supported the Considerable pressure to size Transport Secretary, is under considerable pressure to give

des. The jewel in the sale of National Air Traffic Services (Nats) is the new state of theart £350 million control centre at Swenwick in Hampshire. Dogged by technical prob-

election to squeeze it in. lems, it is due to come on stream at the end of next The MoD, spurred on by the Royal Air Force, is said to will eventually increase air space capacity over Britain to at least double what it is today by 2015.

The first casualty of any sell-off would be plans to build a second centre at Prestwick, near Glasgow, for

biggest round of applause of The Civil Aviation Authorhis speech at Labour's party ity, which controls Nats and conference.

Condemning it as the Tories' latest "crazy" privatisation scheme, he said: "Let safety doubts, safety back-up to each other. Whitehall sources suggest Swanwick's technical diffi-that the issue is soon to be culties will have to be ironed thing we can to block this sell-

-- · ·

Butte Mining, embroiled in legal action for years to retrieve profits made by the previous owners of its Montana mines, has been forced to restate its accounts for the

News in brief

year to June 1995. The Financial Reporting Review Panel, has required his assent to the sale. But he is warning that it could com-promise Britain's excellent the company to issue new ac-counts which will show a loss safety record. He also believes of £628,000 rather than the that there is insufficient parliamentary time before the original profit of £339,000, because profit on shares received by Butte but not resold at the balance sheet

date should not have been included. HT**V** seeks payment cut Welsh television company HTV, which announced a 10

transport secretary, Andrew per cent interim profits rise Smith, gave the Government its strongest warning yet that to £6.7 million, has opened negotiations on reducing the Labour would block the privatisation, winning him the £23 million a year it pays to the Treasury for its licence. It admitted, however, that it could become a target for takeover before licence by 7 per cent to an all-time renewals.

BA report sent to Lang

The long delayed report by

conference.

packages.

Change 2 name

Bank's record leap

Mining company | British Airways and Ameri- | cent leap in interim profits At the pre-tax level, the bank turned in a record £324.3 milcan Airlines was sent to the Trade and Industry Secretary, lan Lang, yesterday, Industry sources suggested he would lion. The underlying loan level was up 14 per cent year on year - with mortgages and lending to manufacturers make up his mind on whether to refer it to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission next week, but might delay an and service businesses particularly significant. announcement until after

Small firms' big costs the Conservative party Legal burdens on owner-man-

aged businesses have increased despite government attempts to cut red tape, ac-MERCURY One 2 One, the smallest of the British mobile cording to research by Manchester Business School for the Forum of Private Busi-ness. A business with 15 em-ployees and a turnover of phone operators, changed its name to just One 2 One, as part of a £10 million market-ing campaign. The company is adding a free message service to its more recent tariff Bid for oil company

an announcement on rumours that it is soon to announce an agreed bid from A surge in lending over the Reed Elsevier, would be made the Office of Fair Trading into last six months helped the "when appropriate". The the proposed alliance between Bank of Scotland to a 24 per shares closed 4p lower at 412p.

The value of the options for the year ending June 30 is more than a quarter of the HE value of stock opcompany's earnings for the tions at software giant

same period. Mr Gates himself is profit-Microsoft has leapt by 39 per cent to \$570 million (£360 million) in the past year. It brings the total value of ing from the company's erowth. Earlier this week Forbes magazine crowned him the richest man in America, with a net worth of \$18.6 billion. The new employee stock op

three years to \$1.34 billion. The rise will help Bill Gates' company to retain key staff, tion figures were listed in Mi-crosoft's Securities and Exwho had begun drifting away to Silicon Valley rivals promchange Commission filing ising the more immediate under the section "Outlook: Issues and Uncertainties". rewards of sky-high salaries. The large increase reflects the sharp rise since the begin-ning of the year in Microsoft's Jerry Masters, director of financial reporting at Micro-soft, said: "The real reason we share price boosted by impressive growth by the sys-tems software group behind the Windows 95 and Windows did this is to show there is a long-term risk that our use of stock options could be replaced with cash."

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS Italy 2,334 Singapore 2 10-Malta 0.5490 South Africa 6.88 Netherlands 2.60 Spain 194.75 New Zealand 2.1725 Sweden 10.19 Norway 9.9125 Switzerland 1.8950 Turkay 138,489 Australia 1.9090 France 7.82 Germany 2.3150 Austria 16.28 Belgium 47.61 Canada 2.0775 Greece 368.50 Canada 2.0775 Hong Kong 11.79 Cyprus 0.7070 India 55.77 Denmark 8.9250 Ireland 0.9490 Norway 9.9125 Switzerland 1.8850 Portugal 236.50 Turkey 138,489 Saudi Arabia 5.8350 USA 1.5290 Finland 7.0775 Israel 4.98

Gates pays up

to keep staff

Bark Tran in New York

options granted over the past

Supplied by NatWest Bank (excluding Induan rupee and Israeli shokel

£1 million could have £20,000a-year extra on employment costs to comply with tax, em-ployment and health and safety regulations, the report Cairn Energy, which is devel-5076. oping a gas field in Bangla-Great exhibition desh, yesterday made an agreed A\$375 million (£190 Blenheim, the conference and million) bid for Australia's exhibition organiser, said its Command Petroleum, which first half pre-tax profits had more than doubled from has an oil field in the Bay of Bengal. Cairn shares jumped £15.2 million to £30.7 million. But the company insisted that

NT platforms.

12 FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

Announcement rushed out to avert legal action

Eurotunnel claims debt deal agreed

Patrick Deravan City Editor

UROTUNNEL yesterday announced it had agreed terms for rescheduling its £8 billion debt with supporting banks, though it has yet to finalise details on the negotia-tions which have lasted almost a year.

The announcement appears to have been rushed out in an attempt to avert the company's being put into adminis-tration under French law and to quash speculation that both sides were unable to come up with a deal.

The company's statement that terms had been "agreed in principle" was met with spread scepticism in the market since Eurotunnel is still finalising the long-awaited details of the restructuring package which could see up to 49 per cent of the debt wiped out by the banks

in return for new equity. Eurotunnel insisted that the deal was imminent, however, and that trading in its shares could resume next Tuesday. Shares were sus-pended at 115p in London and Paris at the beginning of the week to prevent the risks of a disorderly market because of ples of the restructuring plan uncertainty surrounding the which is essential for the group's financial recovery."

pany's future has been rife because this was the deadline by which Eurotunnel had been expected to complete a deal. The agreement faces the final hurdle of a Friday conference of all the major banks. At this meeting the four "agent" or lead banks will present details to the group of introductory banks which

speak for the rest of the 220strong lending consortium. Sources believe it is far from certain that consensus has been reached on all outstanding details because of the number of different vested interests of the sup-porting banks. It also needs the support of its shareholders - 70 per cent of the company is controlled by small investors, an unusually high proportion for any major stock market listed company. Besides the conversion of part of the debt into equity

there is also expected to be an issue of convertible bonds, Other elements are thought to include share warrants, vari-able rate bonds and measures such as "stabilisation notes" which repay debt from a parcentage of cash flow. In a statement Eurotunnel said: "Agreement has been

reached on the basic princishareholders' interests," one banking source said last

Speculation about the com-But beneath the surface, i became clear that there are tensions between the company and the president of the Paris Commercial Court. which had appointed arbitra-tors to help broker a deal. The mandate of Lord Wakeham and his French counterpart, Robert Badinter, to referee the talks expired on Monday. It is not being renewed.

The president of the court, Jean-Pierre Mattei, yesterday insisted that he took the initiative to persuade a reluctant Eurotunnel to accept the mediation process that led to the breakthrough in the debt talks. He said his move was motivated by considerations of "fairness" to shareholders. He added: "The scale of Eurotunnel is such that a failure with its Fr70 billion of debt, and an international treaty and two courts involved, would have meant a legal and financial imbroglio without precedent.

Sources close to the agent banks however were last night playing down the court's role in the agreement, insisting they had freely ac-cepted the constraints of the arbitration process. "It is nonsense to suggest that we were dragging our feet or doing anything to jeopardise

The Guardian Thursday October 3 1996

The new City ... The growth of Canary Wharf and the Isle of Dogs has been necessary to accommodate the inflow of foreign institutions Photograph Davo sund Old favourites cast aside

G BANG

Retailers back code for third-world suppliers

Roger Cowe

AINSBURY and the Co-Sop signalled the start of a new era in high-street retailing yesterday when they launched a project to trans-form their trading relationships with third-world Droducer

The two grocery groups have teamed up with the Fair-trade Foundation to develop codes of conduct which should result in improved conditions for workers mak-ing their own-label products.

The six-month pilot project includes purchases of flowers

should be aimed at solutions to improve conditions. The supermarkets will de-velop codes based on a third-Wendy Wrigley, head of world suppliers' charter brand and corporate market-ing for the CWS, said the in-terest in fair trade stemmed launched yesterday by The Fairtrade Foundation, which is backed by charities such as from the Co-op's "responsible retailing" initiative two Oxfam and Christian Aid. The charter incorporates minimum standards laid

years ago. "As a consumer-owned organisation, our agenda is driven by consumer concerns, not by the City," she said. "This is about a basic set of standards which customers can expect from us as a retailer. It is about ordinary products on the shelves, not niche items.'

down by the International Labour Organisation, cover-ing areas such as child labour and working conditions. The pilot projects will also work out methods of monitoring conditions on the ground. Phil Wells, the foundation di-rector, urged UK buyers to

take responsibility for im-Sainsbury's Petrina Fridd proving conditions rather than walking away from

IAN KING surveys the dramatic fail of Britain's independent financial institutions as foreign firms step in

own Big Bang has been followed by a series of volcanic eruptions and, 10 years on, the face of the City has been completely change

London has firmly estab-lished itself alongside New York and Tokyo as one of the world's leading financial centres, but as foreign financial institutions have come to town they have snaffied up most of Britain's most famous old banking names.

The way was paved for the invasion when it was agreed that membership of the Ex-

IKE the original houses, there were no such event that created the universe, the City's Accordingly, a free-for-all Accordingly, a free-for-all ensued with banks falling over themselves to establish all-singing all-dancing one stop finance shops. In particularly heavy de-mand were the old broking

and jobbing houses. London's revolutionary de-

cision to make such changes. along with the increasing international movement of money, explains why the City has become so important on the world stage. The Americans poured in

в and a presence in the Square Mile came to be seen as



mises concerned two of Lon-don's most famous old stockbroking houses, Scrimgeour Kemp Gee and Vickers da Costa, which were gobbled up by American banking giant Citicorp.

Transmogrified into Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers, and based in gleaming new head-quarters just south of the Thames, the new firm was quickly rattled by the defec-

Within weeks, SG Warburg, another aristocratic house was humiliated in its failure to stitch a deal with Ameri-can bank Morgan Stanley, and instead fell into the arms of Swiss Banking Corporation. Other foreign predators pounced and, when the dust settled, Kleinwort Benson was in the hands of Dresdney Bank, while Merrill Lynch, the so-called "thundering herd", had swallowed Smith New Court.

Some pointed to the fact that the old-style British merchant banks had always wanted to be players on a global stage and that, under their new owners, they stood a chance of achieving just that. But others, more scepti-

cal, could only wonder whether the foreigners would still regard such "prizes" so enthusiastically once 1995's

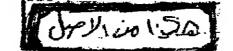
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Hurricane to land blow

Ron Cox expects

another victory for Manton in the Middle Park Stakes

LASSIC prospects rarely surface in the Middle Park Stakes these days. The ex-ception is Rodrigo De Triano, who won the Newmarket race in 1991 before some contract trace in 1991 before going on to land the 2,000 Guineas the following season.

He carried the colours of Robert Sangster, was trained by Peter Chapple-Hyam and ridden by John Reid, and the Manton team have their eyes on the prize again today with Hurricane State.

So far, this Miswaki colt has no pretensions to the "Rodrigo" class, but a runaway success at Goodwood last month convinced his shrewd connections that it was worth supplementing Hurricane State for this crack at Group

One company. Narrowly beaten first time out, Hurricane State recorded an oustanding time when winning his 14-runner Goodwood maiden race by five lengths and a further six lengths after making all the running. Select Choice, third at

rivals here, Easycall That is possibly a flattering view of the Goodwood form, but Chapple-Hyam clearly feels Hurricane State is ready for the step up in class and this is the stable which sent out Revoque to lower the colours of Zamindar in the Prix de la Salamandre at

Longchamp recently. Chapple-Hyam has a good line to Bahamian Bounty, who touched off Zamindar at Deauville. Pas de Reponse, three lengths back in third there, gave that form a gilt edged look when winning the Cheveley Park Stakes on

Tuesday.

However. Bahamian Bounty benefited from a brilliant tactical ride from Fran-kie Dettori in a muddling sort of race at Deauville and it remains to be seen if he is as good as the form suggests. Indian Rocket goes from strength to strength and was not hard pressed to beat hot hard pressed to beat Proud Native by two and a half lengths in the Mill Reaf Stakes, yet the runner-up had finished last in the Gimcrack on his previous start, a couple of lengths behind the afore-mentioned Select Choice

mentioned Select Choice, which puts a question mark over the Newbury form. Hurricane State (3.40) may have limited Classic po-tential, but his victory at Goodwood stamps his victory at Goodwood stamps him a twoyear-old of considerable promise and he could dent one or two taller reputations today.

Every now and then the handicapper errs on the le-nient side in his assessment of two-year-olds in nurseries. Hattab (2.85), in the Baileys Horse Feeds Handicap, looks a case in point.

Raced over six furlongs on his first two starts, this Marju colt bolted up by three and a half lengths when dropped to five furlongs — the distance of today's race — at Haydock last time out.

Both the third and fourth-Select Choice, third at Goodwood, had previously been besten a similar dis-tance behind Abou Zouz in the Gimcrack Stakes at York where he finished a lot closer to one of Hurricane State's targe second to So Factual in last year's Nunthorpe Stakes, last year's Nunthorpe Stakes, can put matters right in the can put matters right in the Rous Stakas. Switched from Pip Payne to Ian Balding, Ya Malak had his first outing for his new trainer at Newbury last month in the race won by Struggler. He could only fin-ish seventh, but was not given a hard time and with Balding's horses in good form Ya Malak should be a lot sharper this time. and Misrule.

Ya Malak should be a lot
aharper this time.
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The Joel Stakes, which
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the Stable hack at present."I died the first five winners
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Millie by four lengths.
"A



Brighton breezy . . . Frankie Dettori powers home on Kristal Breeze at Brighton yesterday

Dettori tops century with Brighton double

RANKIE DETTORI was the toast of Brighton yesterday when rac-ing's number one attrac-tion reached his century of "I couldn't give Pat Ed-Newmarket

winners for the season with a double on Kristal Breeze dery a good battle for the title this year due to the in-jury, but I will be back for a After he had reached the landmark, the Italian rider's fifth in succession, real ding-dong with him next season. "I hope next year will be

a safer one for jockeys too — there have been far too many injuries this term. Dettori said: "At one point, after I broke my elbow on June 13, I thought I was

- there have been many injuries this term. "To be frank, I am still overwhelmed from Satur-day - I can't quite get over it yet. I would have loved to have done the 100 on one of the Nationwide Building "This is my

600th After his injury Dettori got back into the saddle at Newmarket on August 9,

having been stuck on the 61-winner mark during his convalescence. The Brighton executive presented Dettori with a

bottle of champagne after his achievement following

success | first horse and it is a great thrill to give Frankie his y Dettori | 100th winner with it." Dettori's century has in-cluded nine wins on the allweather surface, and the 25 year old from Milan added: "I hope I keep riding 100's until I'm old and grey. Rac-ing is my life and I can't get enough of it."

Dettori then made it 101 on Misrule for John Gosden in the Eastbourne Limited

At Exeter, Martin Pipe's bid to become the first trainer to win all six races

SPORTS NEWS 13 O'Dwyer to ride for Bailey Ken Oliver

> IM BAILEY, the Lam-bourn trainer, has signed up Conor O'D-wyer to be his stable jockey in place of Norman Williamson who has left the yard to ride freelance freelance.

"I am very pleased as Conor is a top jockey and has been at the top for a long time." said Bailey. "He will have his first ride for me at Uttoxeter on

Saturday." Despite his new job, O'D-wyer will maintain his partwyer will maintain his part-nership with Imperial Call, who gave him the biggest suc-cess of his career when land-ing the Gold Cup at Chelten-ham in March. "He will still be going back and forward to Ireland," Bai-ley explained. "He has still so this own contacts in Ire-

got his own contacts in Ire-land and won't be with me the whole time, but they tend to race mainly at the weekend

over there so he should be able to do both." Coral's quote O'Dywer 33-1 to be champion jump jockey in Britain this season. They have shortened the odds of reigning champion Tony McCoy, from 4-7 to 4-11, after David Bridgwater (7-1 from 13-8) announced his split with

Martin Pipe. Clive Brittain will decided today whether Luso will take his chance in Sunday's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. The Newmarket trainer will consult plans with owner Saeed Manana, saying: "Luso has been working well under Michael Roberts and I am very pleased with him." Twenty stood their ground

yesterday for the Longchamp race. They are: Sunshack, Swain, Tamure, Classic Cliche, Oscar Schindler, Pilsudski, Luso, Court of Honour, Leeds, Pentire, Russian Snows, Shaamit, Radevore, Darazari, Polaris Flight, Le Destin, Zagreb, Helissio, Luma Wells and Leonila.

Newmarket card with guide to the form

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at a meeting failed by one when Shikaree, who started 4-5 for the Dominton Oils Novice Chase, was only fourth behind Pongo Waring.

"I never expected to win all six races but I am al-ways hopeful," said Pipe, who had previously sad-dled the first five winners at the course on August 23 1001

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14 SPORTS NEWS

Soccer

Martin Thorpe on a rule change regarding postponements for international call-ups that could keep League clubs in action well into June

Fixture log-jam could extend season

HE Football League season could well be extended into June to tween Crystal Palace and Sheffield United is in doubt. cope with a log-jam of Yesterday's rule change alrearranged fixtures

three abs

caused by a rule change ushered through yesterday. Pressure from First Division clubs has forced an increase in the number of regular-season games clubs can ask to postpone because of interna-

tional call-ups. Given a bad winter and a glut of cup replays, the fixture pile-up towards the end of the season could become cata-strophic. As a result of the rule change, seven league matches have been postponed this weekend. BSkyB televi-

sion are also in danger of not | can to bring the consequences

First Division: Wolves 1, Bolton 2

having a game to show live on to their attention," said the in the two cup competitions. Sunday because the game be League spokesman Chris and we may have the adverse League spokesman Chris Hull, "but they've decided to go ahead. A lot of clubs, especially in the First Division, lows clubs with Under-21 have stars that appear in players called up for national their first teams regularly service to count them in the and are valuable members of entees needed to ask their promotion push. for, and get, a postponement.

"They don't want to be The change stems from the understandable desire of without them and you can understand that. But at the First Division clubs to play their best teams at all times in the push for the big money same time there are the nec-essary commitments to ensure that the season finishes of promotion. But, though the on time and we're not still Football League has advised clubs about the repercussions playing matches come June. The clubs who have these

players are more prominent, so there's a very good chance they'll be involved in the lat-ter part of the season, maybe of their action, they are ultimately powerless. "We've done everything we

weather conditions which we always encounter at some stage during winter. It could become difficult but we'll just have to deal with that."

He could not estimate how many games could ultimately be affected, adding: "Inevitably there will be a number of games that will need to be rearranged but the clubs have decided to introduce this policy and I'm sure they're aware of the possibility of a fixture backlog and they'll have to deal with it."

As for the spectators, Hull explained: "That's a situation which individual fans, if they've got any grievances,

would have to take up with the clubs concerned."

Yesterday afternoon saw the first fall-out from the rule change as a row developed over Sunday's Crystal Palace v Sheffield United game. Senior league officials turned down Palace's request to postpone the match and ordered it to go ahead. Palace may

appeal The London club had al ready had Ray Houghton called up for the Republic of called up for the Republic of Ireland's game against Mac-edonia and under the new rule they applied for a post-ponement because Chris Day and Bruce Dver were called

up for Tuesday's England Under-21 match with Poland.

On Tuesday Palace gave a called off because more playwritten assurance that, de-spite the anticipated introers had been called up: Tony Scully to the Republic's Under-21 squad, Daniel Boxduction of the new rule, they would play the game. But, it all on stand-by for the Engis understood, Bassett has land Under-21s and Dougie Freedman poised for promo-tion from stand-by into the full Scotland squad. "We are sending another latter to the changed his mind. Now the Foothall League has told Palace to stick to their word. "Crystal Palace volun-

teered to us a specific under-taking on Tuesday that, League in the hope of finding some sort of solution," he regardless of international call-ups and the new rule. said It is not known whether they would go ahead with the game." said Hull. "Now League officials have told pressure from Sky forced the League's tough line but cer-tainly Sheffield United them they must stick to that." The club secretary Michael wanted the game to go ahead because barely two months Hurst acknowledged their into the season they are alearlier assurance but said ready two games behind their fixtures. they now wanted the game



The Guardian Thursday October 3 1996

McCoist withdrawn Brown loses strike force

Petrick Glenn

COTLAND's list of inju-Sries and withdrawals showed no sign of end-ing three days before their World Cup double-header igainst Latvia and Estonia With Everton's Duncar Ferguson already unavail able, another three forward - Blackburn's Kevin Gal lacher and the Rangers pair Ally McCoist and Gordon Durie — were withdrawn yes terday with Gallacher's clubmate and central defender

Colin Hendry. Hendry has a bernia operation today and is likely to be out for four weeks. He hopes to return for his club's Premiership fixture against Liv erpool just before Scotland's potentially crucial home match against Sweden on November 10.

Durie and McCoist, who missed Rangers' 2-0 victory over Celtic last weekend were not expected to be fit for the national side but, when the team assembled at Hampden Park yesterday, Gal-lacher arrived to test his damaged hamstring. A short work-out confirmed that he would not be ready for Satur-day's match against Latvia or Wednesday's in Estonia

The manager Craig Brown will decide today whether to bring in John McGinlay of Bolton or Doug Freedman of Crystal Palace. He may even, with the squad reduced from an original 24 to 30, summon both

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Frank Coulston, one of Brown's coaches at the SFA, was sent to Molineur last h McGi against Wolves. The 32-year-old striker's form, however, would appear to be less rel vant than his physical condition. Before Gallacher's withdrawal Brown had been reluc-tant to trouble Bolton or Palace, both of whom are involved in First Division matches this weekend. Now he may have to deprive at least one of them and will invoke the Fifs rule on compulsory release if need be. "It is a shame that the clubs have fixtures," said Brown, "but we have already stood on our rights in the case of John Collins and Paul Lambert, who are here at a time when their clubs, AS Monaco and Borussia Dorimund, have domestic commitments Brown insisted that the loss of four forwards he had originally pencilled in was most damaging to his plans, but Hendry's withdrawal is a worry too. The Latvians, in particular, do not have an impressive wins-to-matches ratio but they do acore goals. Brown is likely to play Craig Burley of Chelsea in central defence alongside Colin Calderwood and Tom Boyd, with Jackie McNamara of Celtic winning his first cap at right wingback.

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McGinlay double sends Bolton to top of table

Peter White

GOAL four minutes from time by John McGinlay, his second of the match, sent Bolton two points clear at the top of the table last night after Wolves had gone ahead in the first half through Darren Fergu-son, who was sent off in the last minute last minute It had looked from the start

as if Bolton might have been in for an uncomfortable evening when the referee Neil Barry allowed play to continue for a full minute before reaching for his yellow card to caution Alan Thompson for an earlier foul on Andy Thomas

Wolves, looking for a vic-tory to enhance their early hopes of promotion and deny Bolton the opportunity to move above Norwich at the top, almost broke through in the eighth minute after At-kins had ventured into the penalty area and turned cleverly to get in a cross from the

Froggatt raced into the sixyard area hoping to finish off the promising move, but the 10 yards out and the home winger was just beaten for possession by the agility and McGinlay. speed of the Bolton goalif als ceeper Branagan. Wolves, however, did not Andy ' have long to wait, the opening goal coming in the 11th minute when the striker Bull turned provider for a change.

Ravanelli 'happy

to stay at Boro'

He raced away down the right and held off challenges from McAnespie and Sellars before delivering a precision cross from the right which Ferguson took in his stride to beat Branagan with an exquisite curling shot. Froggatt was only inches away from adding a second for the home side with a close-range header but Bolton, with

only one defeat in 11 previous games this season, twice posed a threat before the break. McGinlay found space to get in a powerful shot which Stowell, perfectly positioned, saved at the near post and then the goalkeeper used his legs to keep out a low, hard drive from Blake, Bolton's leading scorer.

The visitors were level within three minutes of the re-start thanks to some enterprising play from Blake. The striker raced away from his marker Richards and put over a low cross that gave McGinlay the easiest of tasks to touch the ball home at the far post.

Bull should have restored Wolves' advantage but he beaded wide when unmarked side were made to pay by



rosporte Wenderans Stovell Froggari, Akins, Venus, Richarda Thompson, Ferguson, Bull, Roberts 74mini, Emblen, si Wanderens Brenagan; spie. Philips, Francisen, Bergacon sugh, Johanson, Sellars, Stake, Ivy Alex Toompson

Rookle's move . . . Chris Plummer, one of Rangers' Combination-winning side last season but denied a full debut, strolls past Vale's Walker

Queens Park Rangers 1, Port Vale 2

Guppy leaves Rangers floundering

Ian Ross

ABRIZIO RAVANELLI vesterday scotched rumours of his impending departure from Mid-dlesbrough and said: "I will be happy to sign for another two years if they want to keep me. On Tuesday the Italy

striker had done little to dampen speculation that he was ready to leave for Man-chester United for £10 million but yesterday the White Feather seemed content with his lot at the Riverside Stadium. "I never "I wouldn't sell him fo said anything about United 225 million," said Robson.

Martin Thorpe approaching me," he said. "The story just appeared. I don't know whether it is

true or not." Apparently it is untrue for, when asked to com-ment on the suggestion that at Loftus Road last night as an abject display by his new side ended in defeat by Port Ravanelli will shortly by plying his trade at Old Traf-Vale in front of the lowest ford. United's chief execuhome crowd in four seasons. Steve Guppy's goal on 70 minutes was enhanced by tive Martin Edwards seemed amazed. Ravanelli, meanwhile, in-

Tony Naylor six minutes sisted that he is happy to remain the most significant later, and though Simon Barker soon crashed in a 30piece in the manager Bryan yard reply there was no deny-Robson's jigsaw puzzle. "The fans love me and I am ing Vale their first away League win of the season.

eager to succeed," he said. Houston's arrival has hardly sent Rangers' fortunes rocketing. As one would ex-"I wouldn't sell him for

he has improved the team's organisation and ability to HE honeymoon is over battle, if not their results.

already. Stewart Hous-ton heard his first boos A disappointing home draw with Swindon was followed by a hard-earned goalless draw at Birmingham, but the most memorable aspect of the Scot's tenure so far has been the quiz question it has spawned: which teams did QPR play in their first three games under Houston?

The answer is Swindon, Swindon and Swindon, two Coca-Cola ties sandwiching the League meeting. Houston notched his first victory in the first leg — his first game in charge — but the team compounded its lacklustre

Results

pect of a former Arsenal man. | start under him by losing 3-1 | that Vale lined up against i stitute Mahoney-Johnson on he has improved the team's | at home in the second leg. | seven players under the age | the back of a shirt? He came The new manager has

money to spend, but he and his No. 2 Bruce Rioch seem content to window-shop for the time being. In the meantime, the team has become one of the youngest in Rangers' history as injuries to established members are covered by lads from the reserve side which won the Combination last season.

Last night Rangers were missing Bardsley, Yates, Impey, Murray and Gallen through injury, while Slade and Ready are out of favour. The inclusion of rookies such as Mark Graham, Chris Plummer and Mark Perry meant

of 24

Their inexperience showe even against a side with only one League win all season Rangers failed to trouble the visiting goalkeeper in the first half and were booed off at half-time for their pains. They made partial amends within a minute of the new half when Quashie headed on target at Van Heusden. But in keeping with the game thus

far it was so soft as not to trouble the goalkeeper. On 56 minutes Rangers at last posed a real question: how on earth, if they got back

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Athinalkos 60, V

NEN'S EUROLEAGUE C'SHEP.

92, Limoges 77, Grov 66, Villeurbanne 72,

into the Fremiership, would they fit the name of their sub-

the back of a shirt? He came on for Perry fresh from a loan period at Wycombe and two oals scored for them in last Saturday's 6-3 defeat at Peterborough.

With the sparse crowd increasingly restive, Vale threatened as Naylor, Guppy and Porter all went close. The goal duly came on 70 minutes when Guppy drilled a 25-yard shot into the top left-band corner which cannoned in off the

angle. GPR: Sommer; Graham, Brevett, Barker, McDonald, Plummer, Brazier, Perry, Dicho, Quashe, Sincialr. Part Yules Van Heusden; Hill, Tankard, Walker, Aspin, Glover, McCarthy, Parter, Taibol, Neylor, Guppy. Bafarese G Sinch (Wolverhampton).

Verrier (US) 6-0; F Lynch/J North bl Lowa/C Lazerenko 6-4; C Manon/S Ran bt P Manley/T Kirby.5-2.

Uefa warning McGrath can go and as soon on Dons' move as possible, say Aston Villa

Peter White

PAUL McGRATH has been put on the transfer list. The unsettled 36-year-old Aston Villa defender, until recently a regular member of the Republic of Ireland side. was sent home earlier this week after confronting Villa's manager Brian Little about his continued absence from the first team.

Now Little has decided that McGrath can go. Coventry City's manager Ron Atkinson will be among those interested, but not necessarily at Villa's £200,000 asking price.

We have informed all clubs in this country and in Scotland that Paul is available." Little confirmed last night, "and the quicker the matter is resolved the better. The longer he stays with us the more frustrating it will become for everyone.

Another player placed on the transfer list yesterday was the Leicester City midfielder Garry Parker, who helped Leicester reach the Premiership last season but missed the start of this through illness and has since at Hungary's Ferencyaros been on the substitutes' bench. Parker, 31, joined | night on Tuesday. October 15.

Leicester from Aston Villa nearly two years ago for £650,000 — he was at Nottingham Forest before that -- and his manager Martin O'Neill will want around £450,000.

Trevor Francis, the Birmingham City manager, last night granted a transfer request from Mike Newell, only 10 weeks after signing the striker from Blackburn Rovers for £750,000. Newell

put in a written request for a move after being omitted from the side to play QPR at St Andrew's last Saturday. Newell, 31, has struggled to foreign country."

settle with his new club. Before he was dropped he had scored only three goals in 10 games, and two of them were against Brighton in their Coca-Cola Cup tie.

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The Portsmouth goalkeeper Alan Knight has been given a free transfer after 727 appearances for his only club. Wolves' manager Mark

McGhee is hoping to sign the an FA disrepute charge 28-year-old German midfielder Jens Dowe from Hamburg in time for Saturday's Leicester on August 31. game against Reading.

 Newcastle's Uefa Cup second-round first-leg match to step up their pressure on the chairman Bill Archer. whom they want removed, will be shown live on Sportsby protesting outside his home in Lancashire.

Soccer UEFA yesterday stressed its opposition to Wim-NATIONWIDE LEAGUE bledon's proposed reloca-tion to Dublin and said it First Division Institlend C (1) 2 Sas 44 (pen) Shut 47 would not sanction a move that was "against the spirit GPR (0) 1 Barker 78 8,727 of the game". Wimbledon are the sub-

ject of a takeover bid led by Ferguse 36,540 the rock group U2's man-ager Paul McGuinness and Second Divisio Owen O'Callaghan, a Cork property developer, but a E (1) Rewilling Rogan 28, 71 Hertley 74 7,537 Uefa spokesman said: "Wimbledon are an English club and we are not in SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP favour of them moving to a Semi-final

transfor (2) 3 The Southampton man-Mchillan 76 ager Graeme Souness has offered £1 million for the GIK VAUXHALL COMP campe 2, Northwach 0 Brann Bergen striker Thor-UNIBOND LEAGUE Andre Flo, who is eager to Accrington Stanley 0. Chorley : Auckland 1, Guiseley 0. join his fellow Norwegians Claus Lundekvam and Egil

Auckland S. Bushary O. Chorley S. Bishop Auckland S. Bushary O. Northinget Countries EAST LEAGUE Fart Divisions Exclashill Uid 4. Harropale Raliway 1. President's Cage First reused Tedossier Alb 2. Hall Rd Roges 4. PORTIDES LEAGUE: President Birming PORTIDES LEAGUE: President Birming Ostenstadt at The Dell. Souness, meanwhile, has withdrawn his request for a ham 0, Oldham 1; Leeds 1, Tranmere Notim Forest 0, Blackburn 2, Pirste Sta personal hearing to answer

-venue r verens u, Bilackburm 2, Pirste Slackburm 2, Pirste Slackburm 2, Straft Uid Q. West Brom 0, Presion 2, Second e Barnsley 1, Rotherham 1; Caritale D. York (& Marstield 1, Huit 4; Shrwesbury 1, Barn-ley 1, Thinde Doncester 0, Scarborough 3; Searborough 3; over comments allegedly Doncester 0, Scarboroustmade to the referee at Brighton supporters are

Ny Timbre Doncaster 0, Scarborough 3; Scunthorpe 1, Darlington 4, AVOH INSURANCE COMMINATION: First Divisione Bristoi C 2, Cardiff 2; Ordord Uid 0, Portsmouth 2; Cose Bristoi Rirra 1 Seanses 2; C Palance 3, Brighton 2; Southamption 0, Wimbledon 1, LEACUE OF WALLES: Aberystwy/M 2; Car-marthen Th & Conwy 0; Comate Bay 0; Ebbw Vale 1, Barry 7a, 1, Westhoot 0; Caersws 4; Inter Cable-Tel 1; Cwmbran 1;

Rugby Union CLUBE Lon Irish 17. Oxford Univ 10. ANGLO-WELSH CUP: Pool 2A: Glo for 64. Durivant 16. Pool 18: Swared Harlequins 34. Pool 28: Camphil **Rugby League** FUGLIGLY INCOMPANY TOURI INATCH FIL President's XII (0) 16, Oyent Britain (20) 42, FIJ President's XII (1) These Bara-vitaia, Roro. Navaiu, Gesier Takaisdau 2 Great Britain: Triese Hangord 3, Gas-sidy, Critchley, Hayes, Sonior, Toliett Gesie: Prescott 5 (2,000). Viellers 25 (pen) 9,249 Part Vele (0) 2 Guppy 70 Naylor 76 **Tennis** Basketball OR GRAND PRIX: First Man (GB) bl G Forget (Fr) betech (Fr) bt A Medveciev LYON INDOOR GRAND Chess Stockport (1) 4 Durken 24 SZHO OLYMPIAD (Eravan) Round Hungary 15, England 25 (Short 1, Ada Speciman 5, Hodgson 5); Icaland 15, trong 61, 90 Gauge sie 25, Amerika 2, Lin gla 15, Tuntsia 1, Sco Instand 35, Zembahan Amerika 20, 201 7-5. Second round: A Officiently (Ruc) by P Frotricson (Swet) 7-5. 6-2. O Resectable (BB) bi G Stafford (SA) 7-6. 6-2. O Resectable (BB) bi G Stafford (SA) 7-6. 6-3. SPARKASSEN CSUP WORKETP GRAMD PHDX (Lopzigi: Finst remark: L Deven-port (US) bi B Schett (Aut) 6-1. 7-6. Second remark: L Majoli (Cro) bi S Farma (III 6-4. 6-2. M Maiseren (Bul) bi S Appel-runs (Ball 6-3. 6-4. W Maiseren (Bul) bi S Smith (OB) 6-1. 6-2. M Maiseren (Bul) bi S Appelman (Bal) 6-3. 6-4. 1,225

Hunt 7%/13. Sh Appaimans (Bai) 6-3, 6-4 LTA AUTURIN SATELLITE (Not Cricket

FOUR-MATTONS ONE-DAY TOURNA MENT (Nerob): Kenya 148 (47 over;) Chudesame 51; Beqlein Mushtag 3-27) Pelarisan 148-5 (402, Moin Rhan Sho, Odoya 3-26). Pakiyian won by Iou House Pirst recent Bescher (GB) 6-1. Datby (GB) 7-5, (Foster (GB) 2-1 + Betcher (GB) 6-1. br D Ward (GB) 6-1. Genet A Kosaig (SA) bi C 6-1.6-4.0 Draper (GB) bi T F Noval (Swe) bt A T Spinius (GB) bt D Betchior (GB) 8-1. bt D Ward (GB) 6-2 N Watto (GB) 6-3. S Pender (GB) 6-3 bi M Balding (GB) 6 (GB) bt L Gioria 2 N Wyolk (GB) bt O Fukarek (C2) bt 4: F Stander (Gor) 6-1 A Nichardson n an L carona (US) 6-0, 4-6, 6-1 man (GB) bi C Wall (GB) 6-3, 7-4 id (GB) bi D Vena (Fr) 6-3, 6-4 I (GB) bi A Wysand (Fr) Woold (GB) bt O Vera Wool (GB) bt A Wysand

Went In-7-6; A Partner (Rus) 6-3, A. Canvillou (Rus) 6-4 6-1; P Robinson (GB) b) to (GB) 6-1, 6-2; Woman: Second neur 5-1, 6-2; Woman: Second neur Second (Yug) b) (Comprise) (Ry bi M McTuri

all our KAN

8-3: J Puttin (GB) bt E Voropsova (Rus) 6-2.6-1: J Latvona (Rus) bt A Janes (GB) 4-6.6-4, 6-7: L Abi (GB) bt H Mantheven (GB) 6-0.7-2: E Bound (GB) bt H Crook (GB) 6-0.7-2: E Bound (GB) bt A Svens-an (Swe) 4-6, 6-2: 6-2: L Equestrianism 80n (Swe) 4-6, 6-2, 6-3; L Woodrey, (G8) bt S Type (G8) 6-4, 6-4; H Van Ant (G8) bt S Type (G8) 6-4, 6-4; H Van Ant HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW (Arona): Toggi Wager 1, Woods, ver (E Edwards) clear 42,82mc Arona): Toesel Wasperr 1, Woodlands Dio ver (E Edwards) cir 43,71: 3, Celite Hero (P Crapp) cir 43,93, Justier Fox Manterr 1, Miami Biaze (S Marshell): riser 26,73ees2 2, Greate Lightning (A Moore) cir 28,12: 3. The Katapult (C Hodgetts) cir 32,23. Minifonal Grade Cr 1, Sparticus (T Cas-san) ciese 720 (23ee2, Jusan (M Armstrong) cir 30,04: 3, Finchpaim Fulysma (T Cas-san) ciese 720 (23ee2, Jusan (M Armstrong) cir 30,04: 3, Finchpaim Fulysma (T Cas-san) cies 720 (23ee2, Jusan (M Armstrong) cir 30,04: 3, Finchpaim Fulysma (T Cas-san) cies 720 (23ee2, Jusan (M Armstrong) cir 30,04: 3, Finchpaim Fulysma (T Cas-san) cir 31: 10, Bentior Newcontearts 1, Uptions Inunda (A Sayvell) cics 73,469,60; 2, Jahna Corntain Piscae (R Dunning) cir 34: 10; 3, Buijans (G Calazzard) cir 34,42 Justier Mewcoencorm 1, Portsunlight (D Masse) circar 33,173,e2; 2, Baita Bet Corbett (C Houlbroots) cir 34,13, Miarm Biaze (S Marshall) 478; 31,80. PLAYOF: CANES: National League Louis 3. San Diego 1 (8t Louis tend ser 1-0). Amartican Leagues Baltimore Cleveland 4 (Baltimore Isad 1-0); Taxad New York 2 (Taxas tend 1-0). ain 2. Ukraine 2. US 2%. Get a 1. Scolland 3. Parapusy mbabare 1. Marapusy

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Fixtures

are an Armentik 2. Litraine 2, US 21, Gaon-gis 15, Tonkis I. Scotland 3, Paraguny 8, Ireliand 32, Zenbaizer 1, Wales 3, Pieau ausream Russia 382, Litraine 35: US. Eng-land 34. Alson Scotland, Ireland 282, Wales 202, Jarzoy 20 Guomeny 193, Isoffridual Italia: Short 7712, Adams 72/13, Speed-man 7/12, Sociar 102/13, Hodgson 12/4, Conquest 192, Waresex Hound 14e Eng-land 34, Alane Boldon 0, Roma-nia 25, Filmal severam Georgia 30; China Russia 283, Alane England 34, Scotland 195, Welard 19, Individuals Lalis 10/14, Hunt 72/73, Sheldon 8173 Russia 201 7.30 unioss statuti Soccer PONTINS LEAGUE: First Division: Port Vale y Wolverhampton (7.0) AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION:

to Cup: Arsenel v Luton (2.0). Rugby League

TOUR MATCH: Hull & E Riding v Austra-Ice Hockey

UPERLEAGUE: AV V N

Roger Black and Daniae Lewis t been voted Britain's Abilates of the 1 by the British Athlates Write Association, Black was also eighth an European Athlate of the Year's won by Outlink unelling bowers and two by ny moic juvelin cha

Sport in brief ******************************

Cricket

A weakened Pakistan side beat Kenya by four wickets in the Kenyan centenary fournation tournament in Nairobi yesterday. Moin Khan scored 50 as Pakistan recovered from 61 for five to 149 for six in reply to Kenya's 148 all out in 47 overs. Pakistan must beat the World Cup holders Sri Lanka tomorrow to have a chance of reaching Sunday's final.

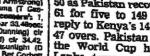
Sri Lanka are to advertise for a coach to replace the former Australian Test player Day Whatmore, who is to join

of the Superleague, yesterday signed the Canadian defence been granted a work permit and joins the club this week

Darts

John Lowe and Cliff Lazar-enko lost 6-4 to the amateurs Fran Lynch and Jack North in their opening match at the Kings World Team Champl-onship in Salford yesterday.

Hockey MEN'S WORLD CUP PRELIMINAL (Cagliari): Pool A: Weles 1, New Zeala 1: Switzerland 4, Canada 4 Pool Ba Kon 5. Banales Darts WORLD TEAM CO IGB unt way bt J Us

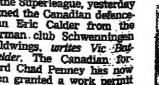


Lancashire next May. Ice Hockey

man Eric Calder from the German club Schwenningen Wildwings, writes Vic Bat-cheider, The Canadian forward Chad Penney has now



Manchester Storm, at the foot





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The Guardian Thursday October 3 1996

Rugby Union

Breakaway clubs now look to Sky

David Plummer on the Five Nations delegations gathering in London

matches being played on a home or away basis which would cut the fixtures by half They accept that the value of their own club tournament is low because Sky is not interested in televising it. The 12 are keeping an open

mind but some are sceptical. "We have heard promises for months." said one club offi-cial. "The time has now come HE leading clubs in the four home countries will tomor-row find out if BSkyB is prepared to fund a breakcial. "The time has now come for Sky to put up or shut up because we need the money desperately. We have been told there will be a signed contract from Sky ready for us in London, but seeing is balisating away movement. Representa-tives of the clubs together with a delegation from France are to meet in London and expect to be offered a contract

believing. "The WRU's offer is on the which could be worth 225 million a year. Though Sky's chief execu-tive Sam Chisholm has told table and, though it falls short of the £500,000 each we were asking for, it is a start. The union has also shifted its the home unions that he will not fund a breakaway and is ground on the issue of control and proposes to set up a busimore likely to withdraw from rugby, the clubs insist that ness committee on which it Sky is prepared to back a would have a majority of one. It remains to be seen whether that could be sold to the whole of the WRU's member-ship but even then it is less European Cup and an Anglo-Welsh tournament as well as the English league. All 12 Welsh First Division clubs met with their union than what we want,"

this week and were offered England's leading 24 clubs have served notice on the Rugby Football Union that £3.6 million this season. The clubs would bank £200,000 each with £1.2 million being they will go their own way a given to First Division Ltd to share on a merit basis. week tomorrow, but clubs without wealthy benefactors The Welsh National League will have to win the approval of their members. All of is not sponsored this season nor is there a backer for the Wales's First Division clubs Anglo-Welsh Cup, a compet

"ould need the consent of ir members, too, even tion which seemed a gov idea two months ago b: which has been a victim nade moves to become limited companies. French clubs have stayed

congested fixture schedules. FDL was also promised a greater say in the running of out of the dispute because of competitions in which it is inthe support they receive from volved, though the Welsh Rugby Union would retain the ultimate control. The WRU's plan is that the

next season's Anglo-Welsh Cup and the European Cup would be played on Saturdays with the Welsh league | watching brief.

Gloucester look to buy way out of trouble

SPORTS NEWS 15



all ou Kar

Holding operation . . . the Lions centre Keith Senior is stopped in his tracks by one of the President's men in Fiji

Tour match: Fijian President's XIII 16, Great Britain 42

Hammond leads the try feast

Andy Wilson In Lautoka

REAT BRITAIN put on their least imsignificant appearance for more than three months. Apart from a few minutes

in the first game of the tour, in Papua New Guinea last week when he was knocked out making his first tackle, he had not played since the ex-piry of his contract with Leeds at the end of June. "I asked Phil to let me stay on as long as possible because I need to build up my match fitness." said the 27-year-old prop who is still looking for a club. "The Tests in New Zea-land are my coal"

forward, a position he adopted with some success for St Helens in Super League last season, to stand-off. In ad-dition to scoring a hast-trick of tries he had a hand in two more of the Lions' eight in all. usual fashion by pulling on a miniskirt for a night on the Harmon's contribution was

Gatting to fill Cassan stands

less spectacular but he was split into four groups of eight third quarter, through the sider they are a few years be-praised by the coach Phil Lar-der for a solid 70-minute Denis Betts, has taken to effort in what was his first wearing grass skirts in the Fi-full-back Eprame Navale, for

Against disappointing op-ponents the tourists led 26-0 at half-time with Hammond setting up tries for Joey Hayes with a well-weighted kick to the corner and, more fortunately, Keith Senior with a rare, misdirected pass that the Sheffield centre did well to gather. Further close-range scores came from Tulsen Tollett and

Nick Cassidy but the Lions looked disjointed at times and squandered a number of

Michael Britten in Berlin

chances. The Fijians scored easily their best try in the played in PNG when you con-

Golf

but they played as though the flair had been coached out of them," he said. "When they started off-loading later on they caused more problems." Fiji's Test team, who looked

Hammond completed his on from the main stand, will be more entertaining and threathat-trick with two of three ening as most of their players have top-level experience Moreover, since their mixed showing in the Centenary World Cup they have ditched the Australian coach Graham Murray for a local man. tacular scores by Baravilala

MULTRY IOT & JOCAI math. Fijiam President's XIII' Navale; Baravilais, Dau kahuerala, Vatubua, Tokalaudau, Maraivalu, Lomaloma, Noiles, Bannalu Soge, Raiwagavula, Tupou, Substitutes Ovelase, Korol. Botantadavu, Suka Grass Britlaw Prescott, Kayee, Mather, Senior, Critchisy; Hammond, Tollett; Harmon, Lowes, O'Connor, Bradbury, Cassidy, Jovit Substitutises Sullivan, Molloy, Morley, Dwyar. and Navale. Larder praised the defen-sive organisation of the oppo-"They compared sition. favourably with the sides we

Master of House waits on Monty

Rugby League S Wales pull out in reply to snub

South WALES, denied a place in Super League by fellow clubs who felt they were not up to the challenge, have turned down the offer of a First Division berth next year and withdrawn from the Rugby Football League altogether.

altogetner. The Cardiff-based club, who played in the Second Division this summer, told the RFL that it was "Super League or bust". The RFL's chief executive

Maurice Lindsay said after the decision was conveyed to a council meeting in Leeds: "South Wales felt that Division One would be a balfway house and that beople there want to watch the best or nothing. I am disappointed because I was a big fan, but they still have plans to apply for Super League for 1998 or beyond. "They want to spend the time developing rugby league in their area, working with the development officer, on the lines of Auckland Warriors, who took 18 months to put a side together for the Winfield

Mike Nicholas, the for-mer Welsh international behind the formation of South Wales, said: "The only way to make it work is to have the profile of Super League. "It is not viable for us to

play in the First Division. We were ready for Super League and we were given it, only for it to be taken away from us. "We are prepared to wait.

We don't mind keeping the game going as long as at some stage they put us straight into Super

League." The loss of South Wales means that 11 clubs will operate in the First and Second Divisions with an extended season running from March 1 to October 5 to take in a new play-off competition.

An attempt by those clubs to form a separate marketing company along the lines of Super League's Rugby League (Europe) Limited has been put down quickly by the RFL's board of directors.

local government, backing which would be jeopardised if they took part in competion their least im-pressive perfor-mance of the tour yesterday but, for Karle Hamtions not sanctioned by the French federation. However, officials have agreed to come to London and maintain a mond and Neil Harmon, both surprise selections for the party, it was a highly satisfac-tory evening under the Chur-chill Park floodlights. Hammond, a late replace-ment for the injured Shaun Edwards, reverted from loose

.................

Hill puts survival above principles

LOUCESTER's director | season coming into general of coaching Richard Hill is to abandon his usage. principles in an attempt to tave off the threat of relega-

However, players will not face the threat of automatic suspension for receiving two Cricket yellow cards because the ac-

land are my goel." Harmon celebrated in untown. The squad has been

Equestrianism

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first and third

John Kerr at Wembley

jian tradition. "The rest of the lads have got long skirts but they just don't do a thing for me," he said.

merly of Sydney St George and one of only three team members with first-class gue experience.

Lions tries between the 63rd and 73rd minutes, set up by Mather and Morley respec-tively and either side of one from Critchley, to establish a 43-6 lead. The Fijians then gave an enthusiastic crowd something to cheer with spec-

PHOTOGRAPH: VICTORIA MATTHERS

Hill had put his faith in a crop of promising young play-ers recruited at little or no cost but, with Gloucester second from bottom, having lost all five of their matches he has decided to try to spend

tion from Courage League

his way out of trouble. "If money is available, despite the fact that it is against my principles, I will scrously have a look at bringing in a couple of players," said the former England scrum-half. "Principles have to go out of the window when Gloucester's future is at stake. It will have to be the right person, though I want a player who will not only offer some cut-ting edge in attack but will contribute in training as well."

It is the second time this season that Hill has had to climb down after a policy failford Road. ure. His strategy of targeting matches, which meant field-ing weaker sides against stronger opposition and his first-choice XV when Glouces. ter played teams he expected them to beat, was quickly ditched after a heavy defeat by Harlequins in their opening match. Players at all levels of the

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Pak : sant e fire to set

in the national leagues last game. Marteni Tarita Section 10 Sydney Harbour awaits its own Olympic Batmobile

was used last season has been dropped. But a player who has been sent off will have previous

umula

in for Gooch yellow cards taken into ac-count at his disciplinary David Hopps hearing and the Rugby Foot ball Union's special disciplin-ary committee has recom-GRAHAM GOOCH has withdrawn as coach of mended an extra week's ban for each previous yellow card. Henry Hurley's debut for Moseley has been further de-layed. The Ireland interna-tional prop was to have made the England A party to Aus-tralia because of the ill health of his father Alf. His place

ive procedure that

goes to another former Eng-land captain Mike Gatting. Alf, a familiar figure on his bow in the League Two game against Richmond at The Reddings on Saturday but has had to withdraw for Essex grounds throughout his son's career, was taken ill during the county's final personal reasons. The Anglo-Welsh Cup championship game of the season and Gooch was forced match between Leicester and

to retire against Gloucester-shire, on 170 not out, to visit him in hospital. Bridgend which was post-poned last month will be Gatting had always been held in high regard by the for-mer chairman of selectors played next Tuesday at Wel-Louis Luyt, the president of

mer chairman of selectors Raymond Illingworth and clearly, even after the latter's retirement, his stock remains high. He will join David Gra-veney, the tour manager, when the party leaves in three weeks' time. the South African Rugby Football Union, met the Natal wing James Small in Johannesburg yesterday in a move designed to smooth the play-er's path back into the Spring-bok team. Small was dropped after the Tri-Nations match Tim Lamb, chief executive

elect of the English Cricket Board, said: "It is unfortunate against New Zealand in Cape Town on August 10 because he had been seen in a nightfor Graham but we are lucky to have someone to take his rame in England will now he had been seen in a night-face the yellow peril, with the club in the early hours of the cards flourished by referees morning two days before the place of similar calibre and international experience." horse barrage.

TINA CASSAN, missing from the international scene for the past two sea-sons, achieved a rare result when finishing first and third in the SGC Scaffolding National Grade C impionship at the Horse of the Year show's opening session here yesterday. Only three among 23 reached a jump-off for the first of the week's National Senior contests. Cassan, 30 and the Queen's Cup win-ner in 1992 and 1993, pro-duced a brisk clear on Spar-ticos and this proved the winning round. Mark Armstrong was also faultless on Iwan, a little less than a

places in the tournament he founded to commemorate his 1985 triumph at Augusta, coupled with seven other European Tour wins in his own country, merit the accolade. But Langer has recently fallen on hard times on the greens, and in his embarrass ment has resorted to a broomhandle putter. So, when the German Masters begins at the Motzener See club some 30 miles south of the German capsecond slower. Cassan returned on Finchpalm Fuital today, he will be playing an unaccustomed secondary role in the contest between Der

jyama and was again clear to add third to her first. Essex's Sarah Marshall Dauerbrenner, alias Colin Montgomerie, and Der Rück-14, on her Wembley debut, took the Squibb & Davies Junior Foxhunter Champikehrer, alias Ian Woosnam. The year-long duel between the Scot and the Welshman onship on Miami Blaze with the fastest of three faultless rounds in a seven-

ERMANS have a way than Woosnam from this G with words, and not for nothing is their national hero Bernhard he would have an unassailable lead in the money list, even if his closest challenger secures a fifth 1996 victory in this month's Volvo Masters Langer known as Der Haus-herr, or Master of the House. Two victories and four second where the first prize is £150,000. Montgomerie's lead is £143,348and Woosnam looks to be going the same way as Nick Faldo, Seve Ballesteros and Sam Torrance, who have all failed to topple the Scot. That is why Monty is billed here as "the one who never stops". Woosnam won the season's

first two tournaments in Singapore and Perth, but was under pressure after Montgomerie emerged from a three-month winter fitness drive to win his first event in Dubai. "That was the most impor-tant of my 12 European wins," said the Scot yesterday. That set the pattern. I hit two driver shots to 30 feet for a has reached its climax with Montgomerie within a few birdies of clinching a fourth successive European title to

equal the record set by Peter | outcome in doubt. In German | Lehman, the South African Oosterhuis (1971-74). Should eyes he is the "comeback Ernie Els, warming up for a Montgomerie win \$6,653 more | man", a reference to his possible third successive revival from 65th in the Euro-World Match Play victory, ean ranking last season. "I have to win here," he Seve Ballesteros, winner two week's prize fund of £650,000 pean ranking last season. said, "but it is not all over." years ago, are among those The Open champion Tom who could affect the outcome.

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Bob Fisher

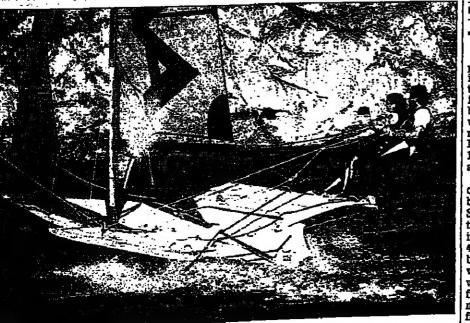
HE first major changes to Olympic sailing for many years will be im-plemented for the 2000 Games in Sydney with the likely introduction of a class that has its roots deep in the host har-bour. The 49er, the over-whelming choice of the International Sailing Federation's ISAF) evaluation group, is an 18-foot Skiff in all but name and a couple of feet of length. For years the over-canvassed 18-footers have been at the heart of racing in the fastest single-hulled sailing boats in the world. The from the line that goes back more than a century but is as fresh as the harbour's famous Southerly Buster.

Lightness is part of the boats in the next Olympics, 49er's appeal. At last month's | we have no business running trials on Lake Garda in Italy this sport". it weighed in at 132kg fully rigged, some 26kg (or half a hundredweight) less than its nearest rival of the same size. Henderson knows he has opposition to introducing the 19er, or another like it, into the Games. But by making the Other plusses are its large sail area, sleek narrow hull trials open and inviting critics of the new-style boats, he lines and a massive spinna-ker for downwind sailing. opened many eyes. The trial sailors want the change: 16 Usefully, it also looks like the

Batmobile with wings to sup-port the crew outboard on trapezes. The 49er is as far removed from the current clutch of Olympic boats as the Williams-Renault is from the Sydney and have evolved into Ford Mondeo and this may had a three-mile lead over provide its only barrier to Simon Walker's Toshiba selection for the Games at the Wave Warrior as the BT ISAF's annual conference at Global Challenge fleet neared ing boats in the work and a signed ISAF's annual conterence at 49er, a two-man boat designed ISAF's annual conterence at 50 Cape Finisterre. Nigel Simular by the former 18-foot Skiff Brighton in November. Some on Time and Tide broke his national federations who own on Time and Tide broke his right leg above the knee — right leg above the knee against any change but the but the boat's medic Lesley ISAF president Paul Hender- Bowden, with help from the son said after the trials that sail repair team, soon mended "if we don't put one of these the artificial limb.

out of 19 voted for the 49er to be an Olympic class. The 49er's rivals in the final selection were two Britishdesigned and -built classes,

the Boss and the Laser 5000, which are both still options. Chris Tibbs and Concert



Pale position ... the 49er won the trial experts' vote as the new Games boat PETER SENTLEY

16 Dettori races to his century, page 13 Scotland hit by more withdrawals, page 14

Football League faces fixture glut, page 14 Great Britain run in eight tries, page 15

portsGuardia



All the same to me . . . England's reformed boozer Paul Merson laughs off his Burnham Beeches temperance league fixture

England in purdah for Poles

David Lacey hears Glenn Hoddle demand a week of sacrifices from the squad gathering to overwhelm Poland with moderation

HE only way a den-tist's chair will fea-ture in England's preparations for their World Cup qualifier against Poland at Wembley on Wednesday will be if one of Glenn Hoddle's players goes down with tooth-

Terry Venables's European Championship squad were pictured having bottles of spirit poured down their week in purdah before the throats while adopting dental surgery postures in the China Poland game, which will be England's first match back at Jump Bar in Hong Kong, the image of the English foot-Wembley since the summer tournament, thoughts of a baller as a breath test waiting repetition were inevitable.

remain at the team hotel at Burnham Beeches for the dur-ation. Under Venables the players would have been allowed home at the weekend. Hoddle clearly wants to keep an eye on them all the time.

"They'll have a drink at the right time," Hoddle explained when the players reported for international duty yesterday, "but nothing over the top. They're not schoolhoys. They and the between the adult need to be treated like adults.

not over-rigorous. "It's not as we met up on the Sunday for the Moldova match a month ago. We controlled that situation and that's what's going to happen now, just a few beers back at the hotel."

Hoddle clearly wants to run England on stricter Continental lines without becoming a martinet. "You have to be flexible." he said, "but there's a certain line to be drawn. And you never let the players know what sort of line it is. In

if we're going to be training every day," he said. "There'll be a rest period; that is part of the preparation.

"But this is a game for three qualifying points. I feel that, if you're an interna-tional footballer and the man-ager wants you for seven days, then that should not be a problem. That's the way want it.

David Hopps LEAFLET for the World Wide Fund For Nature dropped through my letterbox this week and this time it was returned with stipulations. By all means save the red squir-rel and protect the habitat of the corncrake without delay, but nurture any living thing within one mile of my village cricket club and the next enve ope will be shredded. Perhaps it was our insistence upon adopting a mole as the emblem on our new club sweaters that gave the wrong impression. Since then we have been colonised by the beggars. Phil, our beleaguered

captain, hit only two cover drives along the ground all season and both became en-guifed in a pile of dirt. There are few more tired village cricket — the black-smith steaming red-faced up the hill and all that baloney -

but our afflictions, like those of so many small clubs, need little embellishment. The sea son might be over but the humiliations are never-ending. Our moles are now so

hooked on "mole smokes" those supposedly deadly little fumigating sticks — that they pop up to the surface in dark glasses humming Kula Shaker. They are only dis-turbed by the hordes of rabbits that arrive at dusk from Bottoms Wood to scratch holes in

not on my pitch gorge themselves on a newly We've heard rumours of a crack mole-killer somewhere

Until the Eighties the ad-joining field was full of cows which periodically invade the square and donated fertiliser. Those days have gone, not least because a prize milker wandered through an open gate one day and ended up in a swimming pool. Instead of cows we now

Thursday October 3-1996

have horses, two of them, so attentive that they rank among our most loyal spec tors. One invaded the field during a match last summer and it took us half an hour to lure it towards the gate. Ten yards away from our objective t was scared off again by a blundering fool from the pavilion. He turned out to be a retired policeman.

ded square.

in Dorset but there seems litthe point trying to trace him. It's as much as we can do to find the next away ground.

ND NOW, thanks to the establishment of the English Cricket Board, we are offi-cially part of The National Pyramid and charged to do our bit to bring salvation to English cricket. When Michael Atherton plays over a yorker from Heath Streak in the first Test in Harare in December, it will not be his fault alone; now, not before time, we are all responsible.

You may scoff but we're already doing our bit to regain the Ashes. This summer we briefly stuck a poster on the wall depicting the forward de-fensive, although it was soon replaced by the plich-duty rota, which is far more impor-tant. We started an under-13 team and might even try to teach them something if anyone ever leaves work early enough. And, being the start One nightmarish moment are low, we have just had our annual kit check. dwarfs all others. After labouring intermittently for two years over a new practice Boldly announcing that You have to look smart to pitch I was increasingly display smart", our captain. concerted over a period of ensing an OBE for services weeks to see a line of molehills moving inexorably towards it. rendered to English cricket. pored over the end-of-seasor The day that a perfectly sym-metrical molehill appeared in the middle of the artificial catalogues and prepared to spend the projected profits of the Christmas rafile. bowling end was the day that I As all expenditure is ap-proved only after several comfinally realised I'd been had. But the moles are real mittee meetings, he invited enough. Several of our finest cover fielders have suddenly the chairman to pass his own judgment. After much rifling disappeared from view, neve to be heard of again. Older through the club bag, the jude ment was handed down. "We could do with a new strap-on hands prefer to field on the wood side, protected by insect box," he said. And so now we're on the look-out for one, if they still exist. We're going to give it to Athers. It will be something for him to keep the Ashes in next September.

BOLSTER DITC

ew cloak c ar falls ove abul as the aban cruis Islamic

to happen has died hard. It may or may not be with likely to be small beer. The team's success in this in mind that the England reaching the Euro 96 semi-fin- | coach is insisting his squad Since certain members of

But the situation controller "We had a few drinks when

CRIMINAL.

an accessory?

Last requests are

often a chance for an

individual's eccentricity

to survive from beyond

the grave. However a

judge in Barcelona

has put a stop to one

particularly macabre

THE WEIRD AND WONDERFUL WORLD OF EUROPE'S FREE THINKERS

COSTCUTTING

The follicly-challenged and wig-wearers among us, who think it's unfair nto be charged the prices af a full haircut, can now pay by the minute Carlos Mendosa has a meter in his salon in Mikan haly

BRICKSAND WATER

These are few things as frustrating as being second planning permission when you are about to build your Ream home. However Rolf Lessinger, barred from building a house pear Reisa in Germany. hit upon a novel Solution to burraucratic Interference. He dug a fage crozer. filled it with water and built a houseboat instead. The - prinnale, en Zorl nwite, laws, for bouseboots.



ACCESSORY is your Husband just

request. Maria Oridalo. 62 wished to fulfill her husband's final desire of having his skin turned into a handbag, and even went sa Far as to sue an undertaker for refusing to make it.

LIFE DELT?

It was never like this on Baywatch. Lorenzo Trigui, a lifequard in Ravenna, last his job when three people drawned during his shift. It turned out that Trippi had noticed their plight; and had acted to save them by throwing out life preservers. Unfortunately, his aim was so accurate that each of the poor unfortunates drowned after being struck by the flying life belts.

PLAYING BY THEIR WN RULES

the past this has always will then a certain amount of sac be worked in my favour." During and after the tour to

"There's a

powerful,

attraction

about that

furtiveness,

flirting with

flirting with

shame. The

the streets,

the edge --it can still

energy of

the life on

Women

share-out (7)

23 A friend backing sport

without financial motive? (7)

pull."

1.50

life. The

danger,

almost sick

rifice has to be made - by the players, by myself, by every one. You can't do it without that sort of dedication. I think seven days is just enough time to do the work we need China and Hong Kong Venab-les's squad was criticised for its sloppy image and a failure to set proper standards. "The best standard we can set now is to qualify for the 1998 World Cup." Hoddle retorted yesterday. "Image? That's not Number One in my mind. The

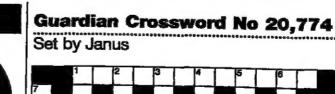
first thing is to qualify. "I hate wearing a tie but sometimes I have to. But wearing a tie or not wearing a wearing a tie or not wearing a tie is not going to get me three points on Wednesday." Eng-land already have three from their 3-0 win in Moldova. Hoddle clearly wants his players to get used to being away from their homes for seven days at a stretch and adapt to a pre-match routine Two Liverpool players, Dominic Matteo and Robbie Fowler, missed the first trainseven days at a stretch and (adapt to a pre-match routine which will be different but

and get a club spirit going." Paradoxically, perhaps, the only players who did not report yesterday were the Manchester United trio of Gary Neville, Gary Pallister and David Beckham, who were allowed to fulfil a long standing commitment to help open a local theme restau-rant, The Red Cafe.

repellent to keep off the midges. Unlike England's ing session with knee and an-kle injuries. Decisions on inner-city Test grounds, at their fitness will be made at the weekend but Matteo looks least we are spared the pigeons. There are, however, many other bird varieties to the more doubtful.

Pro Protocol

atholics



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10 Armed men exchanging

words with porters (5-15 Trial meant to change will (9)